

Coulee Montessori SET Minutes

January 18, 2022

Attendees:

Kim Shively	Nell Saunders-Scott	Melissa Leske	Deanna Maynard
Willie Bittner	Beth Crammond	Alex Hiller	Barb Silbaugh
Amy Merkey	Anders Olson	Mariah Bigelow	Alex Hubing
Josh Shively	Nicki Pope	Alex Hubing	Trina Truesdell

Call To Order/Expectations/Guests

Item	Notes
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim to reach out to Beth and Barb to understand future meeting participation
Share Student Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5th graders just finished power of two cube, placing exponents inside geometric shapes, starting botany this week • Plant sale coming in the spring, funds to raise money for swings • 4th graders are starting archeology this week <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Bigelow needs plants/clippings for the plant sale – share if you have!

Governance Board Topics

Item	Notes
Elementary Principal Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Pope not in attendance this evening
Adolescent Principal Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on ensuring staff is available in all classrooms • Starting this week - Bi-weekly communication called Cougar Connection to provide snapshot of happenings at school • Request ongoing communication of the overall classroom status health (staffing and other) of the CMAP program – Nine did not get a TA for the classroom causing the ratio of teacher to student (and with multiple grades) to increase <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nell asked Alex if he could put the ask out for additional parent representation at SET meetings • Kim asked to be added to the new Cougar Connection communication
Districtwide Parents Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notes sent to SET team in separate email • COVID was a major agenda topic in the January meeting • Nell indicated that she now attends in her new job, so that opens up a slot of another SET member to attend if someone wants to <p>Action Item:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SET team members to reach out to Nell or Amy if interested in attending Districtwide Parents Meeting going forward as a slot is open
Facility Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate document reviewed during meeting <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SET asked to provide feedback on long range planning document by February 1 • Ms. Bigelow to have teachers review one more time as well
Montessori Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 20-26, 2022 • Teachers usually have a dress up day for each of the week <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy to send a message to Nick to see if we could look at a news story • Amy to send past newsletter to teachers for any new edits
Other business: Montessori conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim attended a leadership workshop, may look to see if there is something board oriented in the future. May not take up entire day, but special open table event

PTO Topics

Item	Notes
Secretary's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December meeting minutes approved
Treasurer's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer's report approved
Bake Sales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northside PTO decided they would have a bake sale at family nights to raise funds for Swings • Family nights have been cancelled next couple months • We don't plan to participate at this point
FundHub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See separate notes at the bottom of this document <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch FundHub video prior to February meeting
PT Conference Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meal for teachers Thursday, March 10th • Approximately 70 staff members <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim to reach out to Ms. Pope to determine if food can be brought in
Fund request	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request from Nine for matching funds \$500 • Collaboration with GROW La Crosse and Deep Roots Farm to secure a LPEF Tyser Nature Grant. • Planning trips for the adolescents to the Greenhouses at WTC and to DRCF, working towards some student-directed projects at the farm. • If SET contributes the matching funds, potentially CM E2 classes can get a trip too • Nell indicated that \$900 still remains in the field trip budget • SET would like to understand how the funds would be used

	<p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim and Nell coordinating request for additional information from Nine to understand how funds will be used – not approved at this time
Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In lieu of soup supper, look to send out letter to parents for fundraising – square site with QR code – will go out prior to Montessori Week • Soup supper usually raises about \$2500, so hoping for that <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nell working on communication

Adjourned at 7:05PM

FundHub website tour – Thursday, 1/13/2022

Attended by Anders and Melissa

- Met with Jim Hillier, 30+ years fundraising experience
- 5-6 years ago, started with GetMoving
- Big focus is to expand donation base beyond parents
- Online gets away from door to door
 - 60% come from FB posts
 - 70% overall come from beyond parents
- Events are our choice, but they have tons of ideas and templates already built
- February is “I love to read” month
- Company doesn’t send anything directly, we control communications. They don’t share email addresses or anything else
- Parents control individual kid sites for pictures, goals, videos
- Can build incentives or prizes, pictures and levels can all be built into the site
- Can view individual, classroom and school results
- Pie charts to reflect where \$\$ is going
- You can choose to have a top 10 or disable that
- You can manually add cash/check donations, no fees
- Cards charge 15% for each donation, but you can establish an additional option to donate 10% of the fee. On average, that reduces the overall online fee down to 8%
- Setup fee is \$499 for an annual subscription
- We can have as many events as we want throughout the year, but only 1 event at a time
 - possibility of joining forces with Northside -- but must have same EIN
 - recommendation: fewer, large events rather than more, smaller events
 - read-a-thons - good in feb/mar because coincides with other reading events
 - fall is best time for fundraising - fresh start, new school year
 - training should start 3-4 weeks before anticipated start of fundraising event
 - typical fundraiser duration: 3-4 weeks