



Legacy of Dr. Josie R. Johnson Montessori
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 6pm - 8pm

Board meeting will be conducted via Zoom - an in person meeting is not practical due to the pandemic

Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8406589106?pwd=YzFLYk55cStLTGxWUGI3WS9qMXJtZz09>

Password: JJ

We made the decision last week to postpone the board meeting until 4/27 @ 6PM given the looming verdict in the Derek Chauvin trial.

Meeting Date: 04/27/21

Start time: 6:05pm

Adjourned: 8:31pm

Location: Zoom Conference Call

Submitted by: Emerald Woodberry

Board Members Present: Emerald Woodberry Y, Edwinna Johnson Y , Renae Dressel N , Sherri Green N, Lindsey Berwald Y, Julie Flexhaug Y, Jackie Williams Y

Board Members NOT Present: N/A

Staff Members Present: Fabienne Hopkins, Ms Clare, Tonicia Abdur Salaam, Jamal Abdur Salaam, Lorraine Williams, Ruben Aponte, Rebecca G

Guests Present: Bree Johnson, Dawn Jenkins, JD Williams, Shawna Maryanovich, Belen Cornejo

Meeting is called to order at 6:05pm with a motion by Lindsey. Motion passes unanimously by roll call.

1. Open - read mission & vision (5mins)

Mission - JJ Legacy School provides an excellent and equitable Montessori education in North Minneapolis to an intentionally diverse community of students

Vision - Our students will develop the character strengths, social and emotional skills, creativity, passion for learning and college-preparatory academic capabilities that will enable them to lead lives of joy and purpose.

2. Review Board Meeting Rules of Conduct (5mins)

- In keeping with Open Meeting Law, Board Members must have cameras on

- Pursuant to the Minnesota Open Meeting Law, attendees may only observe the meeting but do not have a legal right to speak or participate during the meeting regarding matters being discussed and acted upon by the Board
 - All attendees must mute microphones
 - Chat function will be disabled. If the chat function is not or cannot be disabled, Board members must not participate in or respond to Zoom chat
 - Board chair will recognize Board members before speaking
 - If anyone attending becomes disruptive, they will be muted and their cameras turned off or will be removed from the meeting
- 3. Consent Approval (5mins)**
- [April Special Board Meeting Minutes](#)
Motion - approve the minutes from the second board meeting (moved by Renae, seconded by Julie)
Discussion: N/A
Action: motion passes unanimously by roll call
- 4. School Leader Report board agrees to move school leader report earlier in the agenda**
- Video of Preschool students in action + shared letters from virtual field trip w/Osprey
 - Site visit (awaiting recap), trial & unrest response, considerations for turnaround work, COVID update, school operations update, hiring update, finance & political update, Summer School update to leverage ESSER III funds
 - PLCs continue, MCA prep (E1 & E2 teams), Map testing prep for end of May, Access testing is complete
 - MCA testing completed for ~40 students, results expected over the summer but schools aren't being held accountable due to COVID
 - MAP data is ready right away
- 5. Finance -**
- Financial Statement Approval ([March Financial Statement](#), [March Detailed Income Statement](#)) based on 99 ADM
Motion: approve financials for march (Renae, Julie)
Discussion: N/A
Action: motion passes unanimously
 - Review 2020-2021 Budget Revision still currently working on revised budget based on 95 ADM - we received ESSER II & III funds to be able to spend! Need to finalize a couple of remaining expenses (such as staffing schedules).
 - Discuss impact of investigations on budget and prepayment process
 - i. YTD we have paid \$45,213 in legal fees. Maya Sallah has only invoiced us for work through 12/31. Jim Martin has invoiced us for work through 3/24
 - ii. Sherri offers that Sonia Miller-Van Oort investigation is open to a payment plan
 - iii. Ms. Jackie to reach out to get all invoices from legal council and get a quote from Sonia Miller-Van Oort for outstanding work
 - iv. Ms. T to reiterate the need for school leaders to be involved in budget conversations, and reiterates that she and Mr. J have no desire to continue to spend money on things (like investigations) that are not centered around the children
 - v. Kheph has resigned. Ms. Jackie to schedule recurring Finance Committee meetings inclusive of Ms. T
 - Other Treasurer / Finance Committee Updates
 - i. School received the School Finance Award

6. Investigation Updates

- Continued discussion of completed investigation by Maya Sallah

Motion: Based on the presentation from Maya Sallah, move to name the report as insufficient due to the lack of credibility and incomplete information (moved by Jackie, seconded by Edwinna)

Discussion:

- What does it mean to be invalid? It was not based on the preponderance of evidence, there was no information to substantiate the allegations after asking individuals multiple times
- Renae states that some documentation was provided to Maya by Shana in the beginning of the investigation
- Edwinna shares concerns of retaliation if we wait to make a decision on this investigation until the second investigation is complete. Also shares concerns around “probability” language
- What is the specific action that we would take as a result of deeming the report “insufficient”
- We have someone that was a part of the investigation that still works in the building
- Julie shares that she believes Insufficiency of evidence in the report could be due to lack of HR individuals to turn evidence in to initially
- We need to have an established HR process and reporting structure that does not always have to go through the school leaders
- Ms. Jackie reiterates that this motion is about the report itself and that we could discuss next steps after
- If we say that the report is viable and that everything in it is okay,

Action: the motion does not pass by a vote of 3 YAY , 4 NAY

YAY: Emerald Woodberry, Edwinna Johnson, Jackie Williams

NAY: Renae Dressel, Sherri Green, Lindsey Berwald, Julie Flexhaug

ABSTAIN: N/A

We need to develop a plan of action going forward

Motion: minutes reflect that the board does not believe this report is sufficient to understand the facts of the claims (Jackie, Edwinna)

Discussion: N/A

Action: the motion does no pass, 2 YAY, 5 NAY

YAY: Emerald Woodberry, , Jackie Williams

NAY: Renae Dressel, Sherri Green, Lindsey Berwald, Julie Flexhaug, Edwinna Johnson

ABSTAIN: N/A

Motion: We don't believe the report itself is sufficient for us to take action, but we are committed to figuring out how we get the details to understand what is happening to develop an action plan (Lindsey, Jackie)

Discussion: we just need to have a pl

Action: Motion passes by roll call with a vote of 5 YAY, 2 NAY

YAY: Emerald Woodberry, Edwinna Johnson, Lindsey Berwald, Julie Flexhaug, Jackie Williams

NAY: Renae Dressel , Sherri Green
ABSTAIN: N/A

When do we want to have additional discussion? Special board meeting - Emerald to send doodle poll

- Discuss course of action for open (currently paused) investigation by Sonia Miller-Van Oort
 - i. Ms. Jackie to call lawyers and figure out the status of the investigation to make a decision as a board
 - ii. If we decide to complete the investigation via other means, how do we make sure that we at least get the information that we've already paid for?

7. School Board Governance

- Update on current status of School Leader's performance evaluation (Julie & Edwinna) Collecting documentation to start to pull together the process, will pull in the school board and school leaders for feedback.
- Update on status of Spring Board Elections (Emerald & Kheph) elections to happen at June meeting, Emerald to send documentation to board for review upon completion so that we can solicit nominations

8. Staff Appreciation Week Emerald to work with Ms. T to finalize plan. Donations from board members welcome.

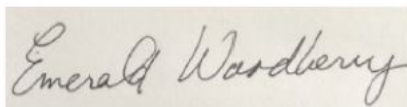
9. Review action steps (5mins)

- Fundraising help - Julie & Jackie
- Ms. Jackie to reach out to Jim Martin, Maya Sallah, and Sonia Miller Van Oort to get copies of all invoices
- Ms Jackie to work with Sonia Miller Van Oort to understand outstanding legal fees should we choose to complete the investigation

10. Adjourn

Meeting is adjourned at 8:31pm. Motion passes unanimously by roll call.

Submitted by:



Emerald Woodberry, Secretary

Date Approved: 4/27/2021