

## **MSA Meeting Minutes**

**March 25, 2025**

**Board members in Attendance:** Mindy Carruth, Alyssa Giles, Heather Valerga, Steve Southwick, Richard Carey, Shandice Johnson

**Others present:** Brian Cates, Kelsi Bailey, Becky Lewis

**Called to Order:** 12:32 PM

### **Public Comment:**

- Londyn Edwards (student): proposed getting rid of the rule requiring natural hair colors and presented a petition signed by students and staff
- Carrie Schippers: Thanked the board for their work. Suggested more Waldorf training and knowledge for board members. Expressed concern that some board members are not fully committed to the Waldorf philosophy and MSA's vision. Asked for an explanation of how current computer use is aligned with Waldorf philosophy.
- Kara Covington: Expressed concern about Amanda Fung's follow-through and execution of duties in regards to her 2nd grader's SPED hours

**Motion to approve February minutes:** Missing meeting adjourned time for February; will find that time and approve minutes at the next meeting

### **Financial Review: Brian Cates**

- Legislative estimates have been sent to Kelsi. She and Brian will start working on a budget for next year.
- More funds have been deposited to the PTIF
- Cash balance and operating margin are strong
- Enrollment is 468 as of end of February

### **Executive Director's Report: Kelsi Bailey**

- Turned time over to Cam Maxon to discuss Operational Updates
  - Pony Express Pkwy in front of the school is in planning stages to be widened, which will include the addition of sidewalks and a bike path
  - School zone and crosswalk will not be put in by the city. The School can turn in a proposal to UDOT for safe route planning. A workshop will be held on April 16th in

Orem where we can make requests for school zones and crossings. Applications are due to UDOT May 23rd.

- Safe crossing is critical for our school for arrival and dismissal times and for forest days. Hoping a couple of board members can help. Shandice volunteered to help and gather community support.
- Started staff committees: Thinking, Feeling, and Willing committees.
  - Thinking Committee: Working on better schedule planning for next year. Have begun planning for grade-level training. Will continue OTR training for new teachers. New teachers will also spend a day observing a Waldorf school day.
  - Willing Committee: discussing safety drills, helping with implementation of SHINE jars to improve staff and school culture
  - Feeling Committee: working on Kindness fundraiser and May Faire, as well as considering other festivals for next year, such as a Spring Equinox festival
- Fundraiser update: we have reached 37% of our goal as of today
- May Faire: May 9th 4:00-7:00
- Panorama Surveys: should have data to review at next meeting
- New Frog Tummy enrollment process has been successful
- Still have \$4,000 budget for marketing purposes; Frog Tummy can provide videography and photography to help market the school. Kelsi will send an email to the board to provide information for further feedback
- A grant is available for existing charter schools to help with growth and expansion
- Cam has met with three different contractors to get bids for office space above the library. All have said it can be completed before the next school year. Hoping for bids to be in before the next board meeting.
- Have started interview process for next year. Contracts will be put in place once next year's budget is set.
- Maddie Young has offered an after school choir for next year, and Bryn Stanfill has suggested after-school orchestra.
- Proposed hiring a specialist to help coordinate forest days and other nature-based activities
- School has a need for Waldorf instructional coaches. Becky has a few lined up to talk with.
- Started curriculum mapping with teacher teams. It was a positive Professional Development day. This will be an ongoing project.
- Edith Bowen Lab School has been a good resource for teachers and admin for training and consulting, especially for nature-based curriculum

- IXL will be addressed with parents as part of a parent night after Spring Break. Discussed differences between Acadience and IXL. Teachers and parents will receive a survey about IXL, which can be discussed at the next meeting.
- Current challenges include space for all classes; communication among admin, teachers, and parents

**SEL and Maturation Curriculum Discussion.** Have had parent meetings. Are ready to get board approval. We do have the option to make it available to 4th and 5th grade families.

**Motion to approve SEL curriculum:** Heather, Alyssa seconds, passes unanimously

**Motion to approve Maturation curriculum:** Steve, Shandice seconds, passes unanimously

**Board changes:**

- Mindy is stepping down as president. Mindy nominates Shandice as the new president. Motion to approve Shandice as new council president by Mindy, Alyssa seconds, passes unanimously.
- Mindy nominates herself as an ad hoc community member. Alyssa motions to approve, Heather seconds, passes unanimously
- New Board Members:
  - Motion to approve Skylar de Jong as a board member: Shandice, Alyssa seconds, passes unanimously
  - Motion to approve Joe Purdy as a board member: Heather, Richard seconds, passed unanimously
  - Motion to approve Mishon Wall as a board member: Alyssa, Heather seconds, passes unanimously

**Director's Survey:** board is finalizing a survey to send to faculty to learn their thoughts about the director. The survey will be sent when the board has approved the form.

**Motion to close the meeting to discuss the character and competence of an individual:** Shandice: yes, Heather, yes, Joe: yes, Mishon: yes, Richard: yes, Skylar: yes, Alyssa: yes, Steve: yes, Mindy: yes

**Meeting Closed** at 1:39 PM

Closed meeting ended at 2:42 PM

Motion to adjourn by Heather, Alyssa seconds, passes unanimously

**Meeting Adjourned: 2:44 PM**