

## May 19, 2026 | 📅 May 2026 - MSA Board Meeting

Attendees: Carlos VacaGuzman Mikale Williamson Carrie Hoelzer Madeline Poulsen  
Board Emilee Krupa Patrick Freeman Ryan Larson bcates@redapplefinance.com

### Notes:

1. Meeting Call to Order - 3:51 pm by Carlos
  - Board Members Present: Carlos, Emilee, Taylor, Steve, Skylar
  - Board Members Absent: None
  - Confirmation of Quorum: Yes
2. Public Comment Period -
  - No public comments at this time.
3. Financial Review: Brian from Red Apple Finance
  - Busy time of year. Preparing for next year's budget to be approved in June.
  - PTIF statement. Healthy cash balance and liquidity currently. We expect additional cash in the next few months as we get federal and state reimbursements.
  - Doing well in most areas currently on the financial statement.
  - Enrollment we are 459 as of the end of April.
  - Carrie has contributed a lot to the budget and it's looking good. We like to be conservative in our assessments.
  - Projections for next year look great. 7% margin which is very healthy.
  - *Fraud Risk Assessment*
    - i. Something that is required by the office of the state treasurer and the state compliance book. We complete this every year.
    - ii. This was completed back on 03/35/2026. Our current risk level is very low.
    - iii. This information is all available to be sent out if anyone wants to look into it more in detail. We keep it on file and send it to the auditors at year end.
4. Executive Director's Report: Carrie Hoelzer

### Operational Updates

- Clorissa grant update
  - We received this grant in the past and need to reapply.
  - Carlos proposes we delegate Emilee Krupa to have the final approval for this grant.
  - Carlos motions to delegate the approval of the final version of the draft to Emilee Krupa so that she has the authority to approve this representing the board.
    - Skylar seconds, all in favor.
- Goals: Our focus is on creating functional, intentional spaces that reflect Waldorf aesthetics while supporting strong learning environments. This includes developing dedicated spaces for support specialists and interventionists so services can be delivered with consistency and effectiveness.
- Upstairs addition will be used for the new fourth grade in the fall

- Currently we are waiting on new plans to be approved. At that time there will be an update to the timetables shared with the board.
- New air handling unit and water source needs to be included. The old plan for air flow did not have enough BTUs for a classroom, and needs to be revised
- Everything has been ordered for Kinder playground, except pergola and playhouse
- Fence expansion has been completed
- Need to repair roof on the chicken coop wind storm blew the roof off

### **Student and Staff Engagement**

- Goals: We aim to strengthen our sense of community and support a healthy school culture while ensuring teachers receive ongoing training to deepen Waldorf methodology and improve instructional practice.
- Mayfaire was well attended, raising just about \$4867.
- Talent Show planned for May 27 during the school day
- School Wide Forest Day planned for May 28th
- Pentathlon happened.
- 6 teachers were recognized during the staff meeting May 15th, and awarded a financial incentive, for the greatest growth in test scores within their classes:
  - Matthew Snijman
  - Halee Young
  - Valerie Villagrana Sanchez
  - Hannah Snijman
  - Maddie Young
  - Lindsey Bagley

### **Community Engagement**

- Goals: Our goal is to engage families in meaningful ways within the school environment and strengthen connections between home, school, and community.
- The fundraiser was successful. \$40,000 goal was reached.
- The school bought 3 basketball hoops, 23 xylophones, 2 large soccer nets, soccer balls, basketballs
- 2 lambs, 6 ducklings were donated
- 6 koi fish were also donated for the pond in the greenhouse
- This will be our first year of Extended School Year for our SPED Program. 7 students participating in that. Step in the right direction.

### **Enrollment**

- Goals: Sustain strong enrollment that supports the program and increase enrollment goal to 490 students for the coming year
- Current enrollment is 500 students . Our cap is 543
- The incoming 4th grade is at 81

### **Financial Overview**

- Goals: Establish strong fiscal structures that support the ongoing and long-term needs of the school.
- PTIF is near 3 million dollar mark after the 150K deposit that was made in late April
- 83% through the fiscal year, with an operating margin at 2.5%
- Enrollment is currently at 459. Enrollment for fall is at 500, with a cap of 543 with the additional 4th grade. Our revenue from the state is based on enrollment of 493 students
- It was a very good year for donations and contributions, with a total of 105K brought in this school year- we are conservatively planning for 20K for the 2026-2027 school year, as one of the donations was 40K and was a one time event
- There are line items from state revenue that will drop off after this year; an example is the 56K Professional licensed educator stipends that were only available this year
- Salaries will come in the same next school year as the current. One of the reasons is the change in the SPED Director from full time to part time, as we are retaining Laura Sage who came in during the month of March
- Our spending for legal services, due to the SPED USBE legal complaints, is particularly high this year

### **Staffing**

- Goals: Improve staff retention and build strong, collaborative teams that increase individual capacity and support whole-child student outcomes.
- This year's contracts have all been distributed and returned
- We have largely retained teachers, classroom aids and paras for next school year. We are adding an additional 4th grade
- Two new SPED Teachers were recently hired
- Contracts were offered to two first grade teaching vacancies
- A contract was offered to a fourth grade teacher
- We reached an agreement with the current SPED Director to continue with the school next school year
- All hiring is complete, unless there are unexpected vacancies

### **Curriculum**

- Goals: Align Waldorf pedagogy with state standards while increasing fidelity to both. Strengthen vertical and horizontal alignment, establish clearer benchmarks for monitoring progress, reduce planning burden for teachers, support new teacher retention, encourage cross-curricular integration, and work toward the long-term development of an MSA-owned curriculum.
- The curriculum committee, headed by Elizabeth Anis, our Instructional Coach, selected "Step up to Writing". They had a parent review meeting on Friday May 8, and have another scheduled soon. After that it will go on to the board in June for approval.
- Acadience testing is almost complete, and are so far demonstrating strong gains in ELA
- These test scores will be sent home with the Term 4 report card this year in May.

### 5. Board Discussion and/or Action Items:

- *Vote: Approve March 17, 2026 Minutes:* Carlos motions to approve minutes. 4:50. Emilee seconds, all in favor. Motion passes.
- *Vote: Approve March 17, 2026 Closed Minutes:* Carlos motions to approve minutes 4:50, Emilee seconds, all in favor. Motion passes.
- *Vote: Approve April 28, 2026 Minutes:* Carlos motions to approve, Taylor seconds, all in favor motion approves.
- *Vote: Approve April 28, 2026 Closed Session Minutes:* Carlos motions to approve, Skylar seconds, all in favor. Motion passes.
- *Vote: New Board Member Motion:* Carlos motions to nominate Ryan Larson to join the board. Emilee seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
- *Roll call: 2026 OPMA training:* Roll call acknowledgement of completion of the training. Taylor, Emilee, Steve, Skylar, Carlos all acknowledge completion of the training.
- *Roll call: Land Trust training:* Roll call acknowledgement of the completion of training. Steve, Skylar, Taylor, Emilee, Carlos all acknowledge completion of the training.
- *Roll call: Code of Conduct signatures:* Roll call acknowledgment of the signing of the Code of Conduct of the board. Taylor and Emilee acknowledge signatures of the code of conduct.
- *Discussion and potential Vote: Charter Council Committee Structure*
  - i. Carlos reviews the current committee structure in alignment with head, heart, hands, and finance. The vision being each committee acts as a funnel with each item and reports to the board each month.
  - ii. Emilee motions to pass to Charter Council Committee Structure, Ryan seconds, all in favor, motion passes.
- *Discussion: Grievance Process Improvement*
  - i. Discussed back in March. The grievance process has been incredibly time consuming for the board.
  - ii. HR consultation has been a tremendous help, but isn't necessarily long term. We can discuss if we need further support.

6. Adjournment: Carlos motions to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 pm.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday Jun 16 @ 3:45pm