



**GEIST MONTESSORI ACADEMY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Location

6058 W. 900 N.

McCordsville, IN 46055

Monday, August 23, 2021

5:30 pm

Or via Zoom Link: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lacey Willard – President | Uriah Ellis – Treasurer | Debi Dobbins – Secretary
Melanie Linder – At Large | Open Seat – At Large

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome and Introductions
 - Call to order at 5:32pm
 - Roll Call completed at 5:33pm
 - General Announcements
 - *Live meetings will resume in September, unless construction is not complete, with virtual option*
3. Consent Agenda
 - Approval of outstanding minutes Uriah motion to approve & Melanie seconded; unanimous approval
4. Reports
 - Student Representatives – Presentation from Ms. Deb’s Class discussed their classrooms and what they are learning.
 - Liam Welty – 3rd year
 1. Working on mean, median, mode
 2. Community building Projects
 3. Writing
 4. 5 cluster groups with 6 people in each
 - Quinn – 3rd year
 1. Independent projects / book reports and reading logs
 2. Dependent projects / group projects (planet)
 3. “Read a lot”
 - Executive Director’s Report

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- Enrollment: 23 Pre-K, 46-Kindergarten, 57-Lower Elementary (Grades 1-2), 52-Middle Elementary (Grades 3-4), 31-Upper Elementary (Grades 5-6), 35-Middle School (Grades 7-8)
 - Facilities: Forced to close the restrooms/emergency due to maintenance failure on 08/11/2021. Everything was done and cleaned up by the following Monday. Student restrooms at the East end are still under construction. 3 staff restrooms were also affected. Plant based anti-microbial chemicals used. All work is being done in the off hours to avoid the crews working around the students.
 - Playground: Possible from a generous donation from the PTO. Parents donated their time to spread mulch which saved \$3,000 in labor costs.
 - Virtual Update: Offering this school year for families that are remotely. Requires a semester long commitment and all testing is done on-site.
 - Training: 4 teachers will begin the Montessori training this month
 - COVID Policy: Health & Safety committee will review COVID policies this month. Current absence rate remains under 10% of all staff and students. Beginning today, 08/23, we moved to all masks required due to community spread increase to "high" risk. All students are kept in clusters to reduce large groups for COVID exposure. No masks required outside for PE or recess.
 - Treasurer
 - Financial Update:
 1. Closing month of July – the PPP loans have been fully forgiven
 2. Reimbursable expenses in July for use at a later date
 - Budget Going Forward:
 1. Projected \$2.6MM in revenue
 - a. Looking for federal education opportunities
 - b. Looking for creative ways to generate more revenue
 - c. In a typical/healthy year, we have 90 days of cash reserves. It is expected to take 2 years to recover from COVID. We are moving to 60 days cash reserves. We have that on hand now, but we are continually monitoring how the grants are applied, how revenue is received and keeping an eye on the expenses.
 - Uriah motion for approval of a 60-day reserve policy for monitoring and budget approval; Melanie seconded; unanimous approval.
 - PTO
 - Call for volunteers. We have a tool kit for the PTO members.
 - Send all interests to Jen Gosch
 - Committees
 - Board Search Committee Recommendation for Erika Radford of SPARK Learning Lab for At-Large Member (Debi motioned / Uriah seconded; unanimous approval)
 - Charter Sponsor
 - BSU rescheduled Board meeting/training for September 22 & 23, 2021
5. Old Business
- None
6. New Business

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- None

7. Public Comment (Chat)

- “Is there an anticipated date for the restrooms and remediation to be finished?” Elaine
 - Jen answered: “We don't have an estimated date of completion yet. The crews have been working to get everything dried out completely and will start the tear out of affected building materials tomorrow evening.”
- “I would like to thank GMA leadership for protecting our students and community with the mask mandate.” Sara Sterley

8. Adjournment at Melanie motion to adjourn / Uriah seconded; unanimous approval

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