



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

**Meeting Location**

**6058 W. 900 N.**

**McCordsville, IN 46055**

**Wednesday, January 26, 2022**

**5:30 pm**

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Lacey Willard – President | Debi Dobbins – Secretary  
Melanie Linder – At Large | Erika Radford – At Large

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome and Introductions
  - Call to order at 05:30pm
  - Roll Call – all Board members present
3. Consent Agenda
  - Approval of outstanding minutes **MOTION TO APPROVE OUTSTANDING MINUTES – Erika Radford Motioned / Melanie Linder Seconded – Full Board Roll Call Vote Approved**
4. Reports
  - Meetings to remain virtual as we monitor the community spread of COVID-19
  - Student Representatives -- Mare Pasley's Class (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade – STEM – Science & Math)  
*Cora – at GMA since kindergarten & Mal – first year at GMA*
    - Science – did a lot of great since experiments.  
The science fair – split into teams and researched a renewal energy source. They did wind (powered by a balloon) and solar (created a solar oven and made smores). Students did the rubric and graded each other's projects.  
They also built wind turbines. They sketched and prototyped them.  
Coming Up: Testing different building materials to build a house to “keep an ice cube from melting.”
    - MATH
    - Mal—has moved a lot throughout her education and has had difficulties in finding the right level for math. Ms. Mare has been the only teacher she has had that is working with her to find the right place for her.

- Cora – in the geometry group. Doing proofs. Ms. Mare lets them work ahead at their own level.
  - Executive Director – Jen Gosch was unable to attend. Jaime Rahmany presented the Executive Director Report (see attached)
  
  - **MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2022/2023 CALENDAR – Debi Dobbins Motioned / Melanie Linder Seconded. Full Board Roll Call Approved**
  
  - **MOTION TO ALLOW A GIRL SCOUT TROOP TO USE A CORNER OF GMA PARKING LOT FOR SELLING COOKIES WITH RECOMMENDATION FROM DEBI DOBBINS TO REQUIRE A RELEASE OF LIABILITY WITH THE GIRL SCOUT TROOP – Erika Radford Motioned / Debi Dobbins Seconded. Full Board Roll Call Approved**
  
  - Treasurer. Tina from Bookkeepers Plus. GMA ended December with 64 days cash on hand. Small increase in cash. Positive net income MTD and YTD. Federal Special Ed Grants and Title IV were received. Building repairs including Midwest Remediation. Hoping David C Ford grant and other grant money to come in this month. Tina recommends in the future the Board review and vote on the Voucher Edit Report that shows all expenditures. Board will review detail in Executive Session with general approval by the full Board at future meetings.
  
  - PTO. Will add a person from PTO on the Board
  
  - Committees  
Operations (includes COVID & Search Committees) adding members – all parent volunteers' applications have been accepted
  
  - Charter Sponsor. Board is meeting with Ball State University following today's meeting (01/26/2022)
5. Old Business
- None
6. New Business
- None
7. Public Comment
- None
8. Adjournment at 05:56:00. **MOTION TO ADJOURN Erika Radford Motioned – Debi Dobbins Seconded. Full Board Roll Call Approved.**



**Wednesday, January 26, 2022**

**Executive Director's Report**

Jen Gosch, Executive Director

***Intro & Thanks***

***Enrollment***

Our current enrollment is as follows:

Pre-K: 20

Kindergarten: 47

Lower Elementary (1st/2nd): 51

Middle Elementary (3rd/4th): 54

Upper Elementary (5th/6th): 34

Middle School (7th/8th): 33

***Return to In-Person Instruction***

I would like to publicly thank the entire GMA community for their trust, support, and partnership during our temporary remote learning over the last couple of weeks. I know that a sudden switch to remote learning can be stressful, and we all agree that our children need to be in school. Thank you for your flexibility and patience throughout the remote learning period. We are so happy to be back at school this week!

***Substitute Teachers***

We are still accepting applications for substitute teachers. Thankfully, a handful of parents have completed that application and are willing to work to support students and staff members in this way. This will help us keep our students in school as many days as possible and is essential to the ongoing success of our school. If you are interested in helping in this way, please let us know.

***Academic Calendar***

I would like to ask the Board to approve the proposed academic calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. This proposed calendar follows our current calendar in blending both the HSE and Mt. Vernon school calendars to allow the majority of our GMA families to spend at least one of the school breaks - either Fall or Spring - with their older children in those districts. Fall Break lines up with Mt. Vernon and Spring Break aligns with HSE.

***Remote Site Visit from BSU***

Our staff participated in a scheduled remote site visit with the Office of Charter Schools at Ball State University last week. This was a part of our charter renewal process for the upcoming school year. Our staff and a focus group of students met virtually with leaders from Ball State to talk about the current state of GMA as well as the vision for the future. These meetings were absolutely fantastic, and Ball State was very encouraging and supportive of the things we are doing. We were grateful for the opportunity to share some of our success stories from the past year!

***Thank you***

As always, thank you for the opportunity to share this brief update with you this evening. We are grateful for the continued support of our Board and the greater school community.