

New Discoveries Montessori Academy

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Official Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday October 15, 2012

The Official Board Meeting of New Discoveries Montessori Academy of Hutchinson, MN was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday October 15, 2012. The meeting was held at New Discoveries Montessori Academy, Hutchinson, MN.

Rick Larson (chair)	present	Cynthia Vold (secretary)	absent	Shari Colvin (treasurer)	present
Marc Vaillancourt	present	Riana Klaustermeier	present	Jill Bierbaum	present
Doug Brown	absent	Lynn Brown	present	Tara Erickson	present
Chuck Herdegen	present	Dave Conrad	present	Robert Cannon	present

Chairperson, Rick Larson, began by stating that there would be a departure from the published agenda in light of conflict of interest concerns. Rick read letters of resignation from Doug Brown, Lynn Brown, Marc Vaillancourt and himself. Rick offered clarification that by accepting Doug's resignation, Lynn could legitimately remain on the board, since she would no longer be sharing a position on the board. Rick went on to challenge Riana Klaustermeier to resign due to her recent hiring as a substitute paraprofessional at NDMA. The board accepted Doug, Marc and Rick's resignations.

The following guests were welcomed: Dr. Lora Dagel, Joan Sax, Heather Vaillancourt, Stephanie Bandas, Amara Falk, Anna Anderson, Derek Niemeyer.

Spotlight Report

Dr. Lora Dagel, Continuous Improvement Specialist has been with NDMA since June working on math and reading goals for the SIP and SIG. She shared that they have a 55 page document that will help them prepare for a visit in March from Marc Doty of MDE. He will be looking at the documentation from all JEPD's, PLC's, leadership meeting notes and personal activity reports. Joan Sax, Data and Instructional Coach gave an overview of responsibilities and duties of the administrative team, Bob, Lora, Joan and Dave. She also acknowledged Jill Bierbaum for volunteering to do hours of copying and bookmaking for the reading program.

Approval of Agenda

Add under reports - d. board makeup, e. family surveys. Add under new business –a. review policies, b. 1st reading of policies. Agenda approved with changes M/S/C (Jill/Lynn)

Approval of Consent Agenda Consent agenda approved. M/S/C (Jill/Lynn)

- a. Minutes of Previous Meeting
- b. Executive Committee
- c. Policy Committee
- d. Facilities Committee
- e. Technology Committee
- f. Finance Committee

Financial Statements

- a. Motion was made to approve August Financial Statements. Roll call vote indicated all in favor M/S/C (Jill/Shari)
- b. Defer Sept financials until November meeting. Roll call vote indicated all in favor M/S/C (Jill/Lynn)

Reports

All supporting documents are available as part of the official record

- a. Superintendent –Members discussed board blasts. Despite Rick’s request for Dave to abbreviate reports, details were appreciated. Dave will continue to send the weekly reports, and welcomes feedback.
- b. Data and Assessment Update –Great conversations are being had with staff about learning and data findings with AIMSWEB. Parents will receive data at conferences. Parents will receive data updates throughout the year. Curriculum nights will also help parents know how to use the data. Parent training on data use may be an option.
- c. School Improvement Update - Dave submitted a first revision of data, work plan and budget update for the SIP.
- d. Board makeup-discussion was had about appointing 2-3 new board members, names were noted and they will be contacted.
- e. Family surveys-were made to follow the October Curriculum Night looking for feedback, goals, and announcing the next meeting. They are in compliance with the SIG/SIP. Dave, Family and Community Liaison, would like these to be available the night of the events.

Old Business

- a. Strategic Plan/Goals Update- Need to work more on the strategic plan. Plan tabled. Suggestion to use the goals from the SIP. Motion to accept the SIP academic goals as the board goals this school year. M/S/C (Jill/Lynn)

New Business

- a. Review policies - 102, 410, 514a, no changes M/S/C (Riana/Lynn)
- b. 1st reading of policies – 521, 526: added forms to these policies. Updated annually, wording changes/dates – minor: accept 413, 506, 521, 522, 524, 526, 806, motion to approve. M/S/C (Lynn/Jill)

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- a. Scholastic Book Fair is going on this week through conferences.
- b. Family Curriculum Night, Thursday November 1st, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- c. ANCW board retreat Nov 9-10 – Jill Bierbaum and Bob Cannon will be attending to represent NDMA.

Before adjournment, Riana tendered her resignation. The board accepted Riana’s resignation.

Adjourn Meeting

A motion was made by Jill and seconded by Lynn, with all members present voting aye, the Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Erickson & Cynthia Vold

Mission: “Education for Life” To provide children with a quality education that prepares them intellectually, physically, socially, creatively, and emotionally for our changing world and all its joys and challenges. An education for life

“para los ninos” – “for the children”

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