



# New Discoveries Montessori Academy

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## Official Board of Directors

### Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 21, 2022

The Official Board Meeting of New Discoveries Montessori Academy of Hutchinson, MN was held at New Discoveries Montessori Academy, Hutchinson, MN and Electronically via Zoom due to pandemic.

1. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.  
Voting members present: Shari Colvin, Spencer Kangas, Chris LaPlante, Patti Hoerner, Amanda Sundblad, Meytal Stancek  
Absent: Patrick Selchert.  
Non-voting members: Dave Conrad.
2. Guests: Kirsten Kinzler (NDMA Associate Director), Peggy Enerson (NDMA staff), Brandy Barrett (NDMA staff), Michelle Jozwick (NDMA staff), Tamera Polzin (NDMA staff), Cara Cline (NDMA staff), Jane Schuette (Community Member), Jayden Tembon (NDMA student), Kadon Kramer (NDMA student), Nick Taintor (Financial Accountant and Director of School Services at “bergankdv”).
3. Spotlight Report –Presentation of Going Out by Jayden Tembon and Kadon Kramer, students from Willow classroom. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders from the Willow room went to Stamps-N-Storage (located in Hutchinson, MN) talked about designs, flaws with a design, and toured the facility. Stamps-N-Storage then delivered a wagon full of the boxes that the students then assembled the boxes for E1 classrooms. The students estimate that they have made 345 boxes.
4. Agenda – MS (Stancek/Hoerner) to approve the agenda with no changes or additions, roll call vote taken; motion carries unanimously.
5. MS (Hoerner/Sundblad) approval of the consent agenda, no corrections, roll call vote taken; motion carries unanimously.
  - a. Minutes of February 22, 2022 Meeting
  - b. Submitted Committee Reports
6. Financial Reports
  - a. Received February 2022 financial statements - This year NDMA has taken longer than expected to tap into the Cash fund than usual
  - b. MS (Hoerner/Kangas) to approve February 2022 supplemental information report, no questions or concerns expressed, roll call vote taken; motion carries unanimously.
7. Reports
  - a. Executive & Associate Directors – see attached Associate Director report.
    - i. Personnel changes – resignation: Cory Vance, special education teaching partner; new employment: Iris Blancarte, special education teaching partner
    - ii. Strategic Plan Update:
    - iii. Environmental Education Update: Classrooms have been going outside more due to the warm weather. Staff will keep their Environmental Education minutes/activities in the EE binder.

- iv. Academic Testing and Achievement Update: 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade will start MCA testing in middle of April.
  - v. Enrollment Update: Enrollment was higher for this month than last month.
  - vi. Activities and Happenings related to the school, staff, students, families, community: “The Big Bad Musical” may be aired on Channel 10.
- b. Board Activities –
- i. Board Training – How to read NDMA financial documents - presented by Nick Taintor
  - ii. Board Training – Board Training Webinars from Brian Carpenter – Colvin will send link and password to the webinars. Board members are to send to Kinzler and Erickson the title and date of each webinar session completed.
8. Old Business
- a. MS (Hoerner/LaPlante) to approve FY23 School Calendar presented by Kinzler – the version presented was slightly different from the one included in the board packet. Kinzler will get feedback from staff and make changes at a later date if needed, roll call vote taken; motion carries unanimously.
- a.
9. New Business
- a. Hoerner and LaPlante will be on the nomination committee for board member elections to be held at the annual meeting in April. Available positions include: a three year teacher position, a two year parent position, a three year parent position, a two year community member position, one three year community member position.
10. Upcoming Meetings/Events/Announcements
- a. Annual meeting, Monday, April 25, 2022 – 3:30 p.m.
  - b. Next board meeting, Monday, April 25, 2022 – 4:15 p.m.
  - c. Finance Committee Meeting, April 11, 2022 – 11:45 p.m.
  - d. Policy/Governance Committee Meeting - TBD
11. Adjournment 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris LaPlante

**1) Student Achievement - Data/Assessments – Academic Goals**

Spring MCAs will begin in the middle of April for our 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

**2) Environmental Education/Focus on our environment – Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP)**

With the spring weather blessing us, many of our classrooms have gone on walks and have been looking for signs of spring. Documentation for Environmental Education is tracked in the binder in the office. Have you noticed any signs of spring? 😊

**3) Marketing/Fundraisers – PTO**

We completed our Scholastic Book Fair with our Winter Conferences – March 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. Many books were sold and picked for classrooms to use!

We sold \$4,762.50 worth of Puffins! That's 398 puffins sold for a profit of \$2,388.00. The money raised will be used for the PTO to contribute to our EE overnight trips and field trip transportation to keep these experiences affordable for our families.

**4) School Happenings**

A draft of the School Calendar for next year has been created. (handout)

Highlights include:

First Day of School – August 22<sup>nd</sup>

Last Day of School – May 31<sup>st</sup>

(3) Early Release Days at 12:30pm

(6) full Fridays for Professional Development

(170) Student Days

(182) Teacher Days

Total Hours 1051 with an average of 371 minutes/day

Primarily followed District 423 calendar so holiday breaks coincide

It was so fun to see our students on stage performing “The Big Bad Musical”! Hutchinson Community Video Network (HCVN) Channel 10 will add the program to the schedule so it will be aired on TV! Stay tuned for upcoming dates/times of showing!

On April 11<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:00pm we will have the NDMA Art Exhibition with Choral Discoveries performing at 5:30pm and 6:30pm. If you're available, come and see the student talent showcased at this event.

Please check the calendar on Dave's Weekly Update for other upcoming events through the end of the year.

**5) Other**

- See Dave's Weekly Update/Board Report for other information...