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Official Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Monday October 30, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.

on site at NDMA in the conference room

The Official Board Meeting of New Discoveries Montessori Academy of Hutchinson, MN was held at New Discoveries Montessori Academy, Hutchinson, MN.

1. Call Meeting to Order – The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Voting members present: Deanna Boettcher, Kyle Kovack, Spencer Kangas, Tim Dezelske, Christine La Plante, Patti Hoerner, Shari Colvin.

Absent: Melanie Schiroo.

Non-voting member present: Kirsten Kinzler, Director.

Tara Erickson, Recorder

Dustin Reeves, Business Manager – absent.

2. Guests: Dr. Jennie Asher, E1 Special Ed Teacher, Bess Bauman
3. Spotlight Report – Bess Bauman and Jennie Asher regarding the October CharacterStrong and Responsibility Project. They shared an SEL activity for board members to participate in. The SEL team meets monthly with their reps from each grade level. Ms. Asher shared a slide show about ongoing activities. One of them being the community day where classes went out and cleaned up along the Luce Line trail and on our own property. The students worked with Hutchinson Parks Department learning more about taking care of our environment in their community. Data is collected through CharacterStrong to show how the SEL program is affecting behaviors.
4. Agenda – MS (Dezelske/Kovack) to approve the agenda, all aye; motion carries unanimously.
5. MS (Dezelske/Hoerner) to approve the consent agenda, all aye; motion carries unanimously.
 - a. Minutes of September 18, 2023 Meeting
 - b. Submitted Committee Reports
 - i. Financial Committee met October 9th, 2023
6. Financial Reports
 - a. Received September 2023 Financial Report
 - b. MS (Dezelske/Boettcher) to approve September 2023 Supplemental Information Report, roll call vote unanimous; motion carries.
7. Reports
 - a. Executive Director
 - i. Personnel changes – resignations, dismissals, reassignments, and new employments – Mistin Petersen, paraprofessional, Tiffanni Markgraf, paraprofessional.
 - ii. Strategic Plan Update -

Providing a quality, comprehensive public education within a Montessori context

- iii. Environmental Education Update – environment survey shows increases in recycling.
 - iv. Academic Testing and Achievement Update – working on goals with ILT, Fall scores are looking good,
 - v. Enrollment Update – total enrollment is at 227, PK-8.
 - vi. Activities and Happenings related to the school, staff, students, families, community – our students helped the Hutchinson Parks Dept. with cleaning up trails, mulching trees, pulling weeds around the solar panels and cleaning around our school property for our Community Day.
- b. Board Activities –
- i. Sounding Board (The Minnesota Government Data Practices Act) was handed out to all members.
 - ii. Board’s role in the Strategic Plan – ILT looked at the strategic goals and added notes to the plan. We will approve this years plan. The board can look at the plan during a retreat with all staff for FY25. A SWAT.

8. Unfinished Business

9. New Business

- a. MS (Kovack/Boettcher) to approve the Annual Report, members agree that it was well written and informative, all aye; motion carries unanimously.

10. Upcoming Meetings/Events/Announcements

- a. Next board meeting, November 20, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.
- b. Finance Committee Meeting, November 13, 2023 – 11:45 a.m.
- c. Policy/Governance Committee Meeting, November 13, 2023 12:15 p.m.

11. Adjournment 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tara Erickson
Recorder