



## Official Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 18, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.  
NDMA Conference Room

1000 5th Avenue SE, Hutchinson, Minnesota 55350 320.234.6362(w) 320.234.6300(f) www.newdiscoveries.org

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 5:30 p.m.

Voting members present: Shari Colvin (via Teams), Tim Dezelske, Patti Hoerner, Jill Montes, Christine La Plante, Spencer Kangas. Absent: Tiffany Knox.

Non-voting member present: Kirsten Kinzler, Director.

2. Guests: Peggy Enerson, Ashley DeGolier, Ariel Griswold from Children's House.
3. Public Comment: (Exhibit J): none at this time.
4. Spotlight Report: Children's House - Growing and Bringing Tomato Plants to the Local Food Shelf. Ms. Enerson shared that every year they grow plants and share them with the food shelf. They currently have a working document with information about the local food shelf. Ms. Griswold shared that the students were excited to visit and share. Ms. DeGolier shared that the process of planting and growing is really fun for the students. (Exhibits D & T\*)
5. Agenda: MS (Dezelske/La Plante) to approve the agenda with the addition under new business a. Addie will give a short presentation, all aye; motion carries unanimously by roll call vote.
6. Consent Agenda: MS (Dezelske/Montes) to approve the consent agenda, all aye; motion carries unanimously via roll call vote.
  - a. Minutes of April 20, 2026 Meeting
  - b. Submitted Committee Reports
    - i. Financial Committee met on May 11, 2026
7. Financial Reports
  - a. April 2026 Financial Report.
  - b. MS (Dezelske/Hoerner) to approve April 2026 Supplemental Information Report, Dezelske said everything looks appropriate, motion carries unanimously by roll call. (Exhibit K)
8. Reports
  - a. Executive Director: (Exhibit J & T)
    - i. Personnel changes – none at this time.
    - ii. Strategic Plan Update – No further updates this month.
    - iii. Environmental Education Update – the Maple classroom grew seeds and sold their plants at a plant sale in the back parking lot, they made \$500 and still have a few plants left. (Exhibit G)
    - iv. Enrollment Update – no change at this time.

*Providing a quality, comprehensive public education within a Montessori context*

- v. Activities and Happenings related to the school, staff, students, families, community: approximately 150 people attended the Family Discoveries 3M STEM Night, Fly-up day is Wednesday, Pet Day is Wednesday, Thursday is our last day of school and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation.
  - vi. Kinzler shared a proposal for the board to consider: moving from 3 to 2 Children's House and E2 classrooms to help with budget due to lower enrollment. This proposal will be considered/addressed at the finance committee meeting next week.
- b. Board Activities –
- i. New Board Members to get their training in before they are seated in July. The board confirms the 2026 Annual meeting election results as Shari Colvin, 2-year community member with 47 votes, Deanna Boettcher, 3-year parent member with 28 votes, and Tammy Maiers, 3-year teacher member with 26 votes. (Exhibit J)
9. Unfinished Business: none at this time.
10. New Business
- a. Addie Maza, Osprey Wilds, shared with the board about Exhibit S being our clearing house and that the board should pay attention to it. Ask questions if there is any resourcing needed. Follow up regarding AERIE and exhibits.
  - b. Exhibit s monitoring... (Exhibit J & S)
2. Upcoming Meetings/Events/Announcements
- a. Special Finance Committee Meeting, May 28, 2026 – 1:15 p.m.
  - b. Next board meeting, June 22, 2026 – 5:30 p.m.
  - c. Finance Committee Meeting, June 15, 2026 – 11:45 a.m.
  - d. Policy/Governance Committee Meeting, not in June
  - e. Facilities Committee Meeting, May 22, 2026 – 8:00 a.m.
  - f. Administrative Review Committee, June 15, 2026 – 11:00 a.m.
11. Adjournment 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tara Erickson  
Board Recorder