

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
RIVER MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL (RMCS) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

RIVER MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL

3880 Cypress Drive, Suite B, Petaluma CA 94954 (707)778-6414

Aug 12, 2020

5:00 PM

**MINUTES**

An individual who requires disability-related accommodations or modifications, including auxiliary aids and services, in order to participate in the Board meeting should notify the board in writing at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Board agendas are available on the school website [www.rivermontessoricharter.org](http://www.rivermontessoricharter.org)

The regular meeting of the Governing Board held in public, will be advertised and recorded in accordance with the Brown Act.

**Location:**

- ☐ Zoom attendance (COVID-19)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89335730882?pwd=bTRWTGYxbnFnUXduWEhva1IOWGRaUT09>

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

- Director Hautau called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.
- Directors Hautau, Royes, Hammons, Dorsey, & Liu were present.
- Staff present: Kelly Griffith Mannion, Executive Director & Superintendent and Michelle Leonard, Chief Business Official

**B. READING OF RMCS MISSION & VISION**

- Executive Director & Superintendent Mannion read the Mission and Vision statements.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

*Visitors are allowed to address the Board for up to three (3) minutes on items not on the agenda for a total of 15 minutes per topic. With Board consent, the Board President may increase or decrease time allowed for public comment. The Board does not respond or take action on public comments.*

**D. APPROVAL OF 08/12/2020 MEETING AGENDA**

- Agenda for the meeting was reviewed. Removal of G.2-G.6 was recommended and agreed to. Meeting agenda was then approved with unanimous consent (5-0).
  - Motion: Director Royes      Second: Director Dorsey
  - Aye: Directors Hautau, Royes, Hammons, Dorsey, & Liu
  - Nay: 0

**E. BOARD Development:**

- Discussion: Effective Board Governance
  - Director Hautau facilitated a discussion on Chapter 2: Identification and Recruitment of Board Directors from the *Creating An Effective Governing Board Guidebook*.
- Discussion: Equity & Inclusion
  - Director Hautau led a discussion on equity and inclusion. Updating the current mission and vision statements to include Equity and Inclusion was discussed. Director Hammons

shared the Social Justice and Equity statement from Eagle Peak Montessori School.

**F. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- BOD meeting minutes for 7/15/2020 were reviewed and then approved with unanimous consent (5-0).
  - Motion: Director Hammons                      Second: Director Hautau
  - Aye: Directors Hautau, Royes, Hammons, Dorsey, & Liu
  - Nay: 0

**G. COMMUNICATIONS**

- RMCS Executive Director's Report:
  - Executive Director/Superintendent Mannion provided updates regarding Operations, Community, and Education Program. Updates included: Most recent health orders from the state, county, and local district (temperature checks being performed prior to entering school, teachers are having their COVID antibodies checked). We're in the 4th week of school. All students have equipment needed for distance learning, state requires student engagement of at least 60% of the time or 3 days/week, Special Ed/students with disabilities and English Learners have assistance and support as needed (IEPs and additional educational support respectively), Assistants and interpreters are supporting students with Seesaw and IXL, Working with families to deliver Montessori lessons virtually- held orientations, started weekly Family Engagement meetings focused on Montessori at home/for students, held multiple trainings on equity, distance learning, and family engagement, Transparent Classroom is up and running, there is a new newsletter format (*The River Current*), there are a small number of families who prefer no virtual format and advocacy and partnership for students ensues, 2 fundraisers are going to be performed by the foundation, Original Works will still be a fundraiser.

**H. BOARD BUSINESS:**

- Discussion & Action: Distance Learning Policy
  - Discussion surrounding the Distance Learning Policy in accordance with SB98. The policy was drafted by RMCS' charter law firm. Motion to approve the Distance Learning Policy was then approved with unanimous consent (5-0).
    - Motion: Director Hammons                      Second: Director Hautau
    - Aye: Directors Hautau, Royes, Hammons, Dorsey, & Liu
    - Nay: 0
- Discussion & Action: Potential Community Board Member was moved to the next meeting.
- Discussion & Action: School Expansion was moved to the next meeting.
- Discussion: Budget
  - Discussion surrounding the Budget was led by Michelle Leonard, Chief Business Official. We discussed the Learning Loss Mitigation Funds, purchase of chromebooks for students, and purchasing laptops for teachers.

- Discussion: COVID-19 Update
  - Discussion surrounding COVID-19 was led by Executive Director/Superintendent Mannion. We discussed the new Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. There are new requirements including a mandate to actively solicit feedback from all stakeholders and that we must hold a public hearing on the LCP.
- Discussion & Action: Reopening Plan
  - Discussion surrounding the Reopening Plan was led by Executive Director/Superintendent Mannion. In order to provide consistency for students, families, and guides, proposed discussion regarding Distance Learning to continue through October 30th with a quarterly review thereafter on when students may return to campus. Motion to approve the plan including to review reopening of the campus quarterly was then approved with unanimous consent (5-0).
    - Motion: Director Hammons                      Second: Director Dorsey
    - Aye: Directors Hautau, Royes, Hammons, Dorsey, & Liu
    - Nay: 0

## I. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 PM. The motion passed with unanimous consent (5-0).
  - Motion: Director Royes                      Second: Director Dorsey
  - Aye: Directors Hautau, Royes, Hammons, Dorsey, & Liu
  - Nay: 0

### **Future Meeting Dates:** (5 p.m.virtual/6:30 in-person, pending health directives.)

September 9, 2020	October 14, 2020	November 4, 2020	December 9, 2020
January 13, 2021/Retreat?	February 10, 2021	March 10, 2021	April 14, 2021
May 12, 2021	June 23, 2021		

### **Future Agenda Items:**

Public Hearing for LCP, Director Dorsey to facilitate a discussion on Chapter 3: Orientation and Training of Board Directors from the *Creating An Effective Governing Board Guidebook*, Financial Statements from 2019-2020, RMCS Expansion/Adolescent Program, Director Royes moving from parent member to community member on the BOD

### **Instructions for Presentations to the Board by Members of the Community**

River Montessori Charter School welcomes your participation at the School's Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors ("Board") is to conduct the affairs of the School in public. We hope that you will visit these meetings often and your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our School. To assist you in speaking/participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided.

1. Agendas are available to all community members
2. Community members who wish to speak on any agenda items or under the general category of "Public Comment" will be given an opportunity to do so.
3. "Public Comment" is set aside for members of the community to raise issues that are not specifically on the agenda. However, due to public meeting laws (Brown Act), the Board can only listen to your issue, not respond or take action. These presentations are limited to three (3) minutes and total time allotted to non-agenda items will not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Exceptions to these time limits may be made at the discretion of the Board Chair. The board may give direction to staff to respond to your concerns or you may be offered the option of returning with a citizen requested agenda item.
4. With regard to items that are on the agenda, you may speak for up to (3) minutes when the Board discusses that item. Exceptions to this time may be made at the discretion of the Board Chair.
5. Community members may request in writing that a topic related to school business be considered for placement on a future agenda. Requests should be addressed to the Board Chair. If such an item is placed on the agenda and publicly noticed, the Board can respond, interact, and act upon the item.