

February 9th, 2009 - Board of Directors Meeting Minutes---Submitted by Simpfronia Taylor

In Attendance: Linda Otto, Elicia Newcom Gregory, Sue Perram, Lori Wendelin, James Gregory, Marcia Kidd, Tim Evans, Neil Myers, Cynthia Gonzalez, Simpfronia Taylor

Absent: Bob Buse, Robert Chastain, Lisa Scheller

Sue opened meeting. Lori Wendelin read the board vision statement:

We, the Montessori School of Louisville Board of Directors, believe Montessori education to be a progressive and evolving understanding of child development. In light of this belief, our policies shall be:

- o *guided by what is best for the child*
- o *fiscally responsible*
- o *environmentally conscious*
- o *leading toward national recognition*
- o *acknowledging responsibility for stewardship in the community*
- o *respectful of religious diversity*

Board Education: Linda Otto presented to the Board on "Grace and Courtesy".

We introduce the children to such topics as "How to stand up", "How to push in your chairs" "How to wait", It is important to learn how not to interrupt and how to "watch" other students. There are lessons on being courteous. For example, folding a Kleenex and creating a sneezing pocket. Or placing your nose or mouth into elbow where germs die. Germs can live on surfaces from 24 to 48 hours-so if you sneeze on your hand you spread germs quicker. There are also lessons on proper toileting and wiping; there some student who really need these basic lessons.

Sue: Asked Marcia to extend the idea to the transition to elementary.

Marcia spoke about how do you feel when people tell you you've made a mistake; or how do you talk to your friends. Montessori calls this age group "the age of rudeness" and you have to give them guidance.

Development: Butterfly Benefit Elicia Newcom-Gregory gave an update on ticket sales. We have 27 confirmed ticket sold. Completed a cost analysis: When considering all of the feedback from parents we expect to sell 62 tickets. Took the list of confirmed items (58) and projected 75% of cost to be sold at the auction. Projected proceeds \$10,000. With this in mind we will need to sell 148 tickets to break even.

James presented the idea of giving an incentive to the family who sells the most tickets. Maybe one of the trips or some other item of value.

Elicia presented giving tickets to staff at cost. Maybe offer tickets to those parents who have not purchased them yet, a discounted price a week before the event.

Board members discussed the offset of giving a discount to some parents and not to all. Comments include that people realize this is a fundraiser.

Meeting Minutes Summary

To promote the Auction to the parents we will have a Phone-A-Thon at the next auction planning meeting Wednesday February 11, 2009.

Elicia and Cynthia have a meeting with John Ramsey (Host). Cynthia and Elicia will also meet with the caterer on Tuesday February 10, 2009.

The Ambassador of Morocco will be at the auction and we are trying to arrange "events" for him. We are exploring several options including: meeting with the mayor; corporate sponsor for a luncheon in his honor.

Old Business: Board member leave of absence. Motion - Sue made a motion if Board member(s) is on a leave of absence that they are no longer counted in the total number of voting board members. James Gregory Second.

Approval of Minutes: January 12, 2009 meeting minutes and meeting summary were approved.

Director's Report: Cynthia submitted February 2009 Director's Report, including updates in the areas of Enrollment/Admissions, Personnel, Materials, Finance, Accreditation, Curriculum, Assessment, Regulation, Technology, Marketing/PR, Development/Fundraising, PTO, OMOS relations, Building & Grounds, Strategic Planning, Professional Development, Outreach and Parent Education.

Finance Committee Report: Lori Wendelin submitted financials and reviewed.

Strategic Planning: Vision 2009 will be held March 7th from 9 am-2 pm. Location tbd. Focus of the day is the presentation of the Strategic Plan by the 5 strategic planning committees and feedback and discussion from the community. The Strategic Planning document is in a final draft. Will be in final form by March 5th.

Accreditation: Reminder to turn in board survey forms to the school office.

Committee Reports: Technology committee proposal to change domain name from www.montessorischooloflouisville.org to www.msj-edu.org. Motion – Sue made a motion on behalf of the Technology Committee to change the domain name as recommended by the Technology Committee. Neill Myers Caudill Second.

New Business: Sue relayed that the school's insurance carrier recommended a review of the school's transportation policies following the deaths of 3 teenagers returning from a youth event. It was also recommended that we increase the amount of our coverage. The school does carry liability insurance for the board and staff. Sue also mentioned that she is working on formalizing the board recruitment and orientation process.

Sue closed meeting with reading.

Motion to Adjourn and break into Executive Session. Approved.
Meeting adjourned.