

MEHP Governance Board Meeting

May 17, 2023

9:30am

Minutes

I. Welcome – Sue Anne Wells

- Sue Anne welcomed everyone to CGLA and to our stem lab.
- Thanks to everyone who was able to attend graduation.
- Students will be coming over to talk about their experience in the stem class and competition.
- Our annual meeting will be held in mid July; location TBD.

II. Review and Approval of Minutes from the March 22nd Board Meeting – Sue Anne

- Hal North motioned to approve the minutes
- Edna Varner seconded
- Minutes unanimously approved

III. Agenda Review – Sue Anne Wells

IV. Finance – Budget Approval - Jeanne Hinche, Tammy Swenson

- Jeanne reviewed highlights
- We will be moving from BEP funds to TESSA funds based on demographics of students this year.
- We are receiving only local revenue funds for new students.
- A 4% increase for teachers was presented to be competitive with the district
- A 2% increase for staff was presented for recruiting and retaining.
- Tammy Swenson motioned to approve salary increase; Alexia Phinezey seconded and increased was approved unanimously.

V. Director's Report – School Updates, Looking Ahead...Elaine Swafford

- 3rd grade scores will be in by Friday
- The summer program will be tailored to what the students need
- Base on Legislative changes we will be able to prioritize economically disadvantaged students first
- We can apply for gran to pay for our security officer
- We have Kindergarten graduation, orientation, field day, last day of school and the summer program happening soon.
- Student needs are uniforms

VI. Principal's Report – Yolanda Williams

- Mrs. Williams is at MEHP and has been doing great things with getting things back in order.
- 3rd grade testing has been completed
- CGLA's assistant principal will be transitioning to principal of MEHP.
- Dr. Swafford and admin team went to Memphis to visit Libertas to see what a day at a Montessori looks and feels like.
- Academic Officer will be coming on full time in July
- Libertas coach will be coming in part time next year
- We will have 15 teachers and teacher assistants
- Based on enrollment, we may need another exceptional education teacher
- There are some exemptions to the 3rd grade retainer law
- We expect to have 60-75 students to attend the summer program.

VII. STEM Lab

- 3 students and Ms. Capp came in to talk about Stem and the competition they competed in this year.
- London, 6th grade, likes most programming on her computer. She is able to do coding to make the wheels of their robot turn. She wants to be a solar technician. She has learned about from her dad.
- Braylon, 6th grade talked about the robotic competition, how to accumulate points etc. She talked about the photos from the competition.
- Linda talked about this year's game called Over, Under.
- Ms. Capp explained the setup in the gym for the tournament. Teams get to play 6-10 matches that day. She wants to be able to send a group of students to 'Worlds' (robotic competition)
- Dr. Swafford thanked Ms. Capp for coming in and helping the girls with their competitions
- Ms. Capp and the girls presented some models that they created that included; the greenhouse and a small prototype guard house that could be built in the future at the school
- Mr. Prisley will actually be building the greenhouse at MEHP

VIII. Committee Reports

- **Academic Review (Classroom Visits)– Yolanda Williams, Edna Varner, Shewanee Howard-Baptiste, Edna Varner, Sue Anne Wells**
- **Development/Marketing/Tours - Elaine/Yolanda, Sue Anne**
 - Met with McClellan Foundation for funding opportunity
 - Made the ask to Benwood Foundation for grant over 2 years
 - Next year we will combine CGLA's golf tournament with MEHP
- **Facilities – Jeanne Hinchee**

IX. Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 19, 2023@9:30am@ MEHP

X. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

School Mission – *WHAT We Do:* **Montessori Elementary @ Highland Park** cultivates ambitious, fearless learners through intellectually-stimulating, interactive experiences that awakens curiosity, nurtures advanced thinking and promote independence.

School Vision – *WHY We Do What We Do:* To establish a trajectory for lifelong learning and self-directed discovery that enables children to reach their full potential as intellectually-engaged learners and ethically-focused leaders.