

**TMEMS Equity Council Informational Meeting**  
**12/17/2024 from 3:15-4:00**

**I. Welcome**

**A. Overview of Agenda for today**

1. Equity Council 24/25 SY goals
2. TMEMS Expansion Plans
3. Outreach opportunities
4. Feedback and Support Suggestions

**II. Equity council 24/25 SY goals**

**A. Equity Council key goals at TMEMS for the 2024-2025 school year**

**1. Student Attendance**

- What are the barriers that stand in the way of attendance? How can the school support the community?

**2. Community Input and Community Collaboration**

- Weekly communication to parents about events and resources in Friday newsletter
- Community stakeholders and parents have been surveyed to get feedback on multiple things this year
- How can we better support students with disabilities and their families? What information is needed?

(1) We would like to offer a welcome packet of all of the resources TMEMS offers to support students with disabilities once a child is identified.

**III. TMEMS expansion**

**A. Community input**

1. Reached out to parents and community stakeholders to get feedback on the calendar for the 2025-2026 school year
  - Last year parents asked for no half days this year, the school responded and eliminated those
2. Reached out to parents and community stakeholders to get feedback on name change
  - New Name (effective 2025-2026 school year):

(1) **The Montessori Academy**

3. New Building purchase

- Lease-purchase agreement
- 13 classrooms
- Room to bring in lunches- which is a top priority
- Question if the new campus will be the middle school/high school
- Needs a transformer, which might be a hang-up to get in by Aug 1
- Carmel campus will become a free pre-K eventually
- Discussion about transportation between campuses
- We have hired a full-time bus driver for our field trips, hoping they can be utilized for the two campuses
- Plan to keep graduating class 40-50 large, staying community focused
- A grant has been applied for 1.5 million dollars, hope to know if we will get the grant by next month

**B. Next year**

1. Move the middle school to our new location, start adding high school the year after
2. Lunches!!! We are working with other schools and vendors to incorporate a lunch program at all campuses next year.

**IV. Help for our community**

A. Resources for families- [Community Assistance Resources](#)

1. Add more resources to our newsletter to help communities- does our community have resources?
  - Adding information in both Spanish/English

**V. Open Forum**

A. How can TMEMS better serve our community? What would the community like to see more of?

1. Question from parent- will there be language option at the high school level?
2. Question from parent about what students are learning each week (first grade)? Parents want to know what they are learning and how to support their students- can parents receive the weekly work plan

so they know what their child has worked on or what they are doing that week

3. Question from parent- what time is school starting? Especially with second location
4. Second question about after school programs
5. Question from parent- can we get notified ahead of time for spirit weeks...for instance we need to plan ahead for spirit weeks that require student collaboration-maybe notified two weeks before?
6. Parent feedback- it's hard to come to meetings in the middle of the afternoon, can they please consider Zoom meetings or Google Meets
7. Parent feedback- student led conference when students can show what they learned- if the teachers could expand on what the materials are and what they do- such as rainbow tower and snake game, etc.
  - Amanda- use youtube videos to learn more about materials
  - Maybe our newsletter can link some of the materials and videos so parents can find them easily
  - Maybe the website can include some links to the materials
8. Parking lot is hard for pickup
  - Trying to get a light or speed lights for our school
  - Engineers have come out to see traffic patterns
  - We've discussed extending our drive
9. Question from parent- what does the middle school class size look like? Cap out at about 50 per grade, 25 per class
10. Question from parent- inclement weather and how do we consider parents that would have a hard time coming in the building?
11. Question from parent- what about moving ahead in strings/orchestra?
12. Question from parent- what about fundraisers for sports programs?  
Piper- new campus won't have a gym. There is a charter school athletic association that we might join once we start a high school.
  - Educate parents about how they can attend our school and still participate in their district public school athleticsAmanda-explanation about our status as a Montessori fine arts school and how funding goes towards music/EAs/Montessori materials.
13. Question from parent- what about a parent volunteer work day for the middle school?

14. Question from parent- when will the middle school expansion be an official announcement?
15. Question from parent- can we stagger grades for parent events?  
Give different time frames such as in Feb for Montessori night

**VI. Next Meeting-Public**

- A. In March 2025- date TBD