

**MINUTES OF
THE MONTESSORI ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL
REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL
Tuesday, April 25, 2023
1730 Montano Road, NE
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87107**

Present: Alan Li (president), Jordan Reed (secretary), Pablo Torres, Mary Salazar

Absent: Ed Gonzales (vice president)

Administration: Stan Albrycht, Piper Curry

Other: **Patty Matthews,**

Note taker: Jordan Reed, Pablo Torres (after closed session)

Call to Order

Alan called the Regular Meeting of the Governing Council to order at 4:49 pm and confirmed a quorum was present with a roll call vote.

Approval of the Agenda

Pablo's motion to approve the agenda was seconded by Mary. Discussion included a correction to the agenda itemized list. The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

Public Comment

MJ Sams re: submitting complaint about administrators, regarding bullying. Mrs. Sams is an employee and mother of TMES students. Concern is that child subject to bullying by current members of administration.

Review and approve meeting minutes for Special Meeting of Monday, April 10, 2023

Mary's motion to approve the minutes from the regular governing council meeting held on Special Meeting of Monday, April 10, 2023 was seconded by Pablo. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

Discussion/Action – Closed Session: Limited Personnel Matters

Jordan's motion to move to a closed session inviting Patty Matthews and DDSK Group including Sheryl McNellis-Martinez, Dana Sanders, Daniel P. Benavidez, to join the closed session was seconded by Mary. The motion to move to a closed session passed 4-0 with a roll call vote. The Governing Council moved to a closed session at 5 :01 pm. Closed session ended at 7:35, only personnel issues were discussed, and no votes were taken.

Meeting reconvened at 7:40 pm, with Jordan departing after leaving the closed session.

Discussion/Action – Administrative Leave of Mary Jane Besante

Mary Jane Besante to remain on paid administrative leave until final report is issued by DDSK Group.

Discussion/ Action – Finance Committee

1. BARS

- 529-000-2223-0014-I
Pablos's motion to approve BAR 529-000-2223-0014-I was seconded by Mary. The motion to approve the BAR passed unanimously.
- 529-000-2223-0016-I
Mary's motion to approve BAR 529-000-2223-0016-I was seconded by Pablo. The motion to approve the BAR passed unanimously.

2. Expense Reports

- Pablo's motion to approve the March 2023 Expenditure Report was seconded by Mary. Mary had questions regarding how students fundraise for annual Big Trip. Stan gave info about how some of the expenses are related to the fundraisers. Mary had questions about how the legal fees are paid, budgeted, and if there is enough in that account. Stan said the school has close to \$20,000 in legal fund for the rest of the fiscal year. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Chair – Update

- Pablo presented the finance committee chair update. There were three finding in the audit, which will be reviewed in the May 23rd meeting.

Discussion/Action -- Director's Report

Piper presented the Director's Report the Governing Council. Piper Curry discussed items listed in her report for this meeting. The main items of note are: plan for High School will be delayed until the school applies for its recharter. 48 Teachers have indicated their intent to return (out of 52). Please see attached report for additional details.

Discussion/Action – Academic Calendar for 2023-2024

Mary's motion to table **Academic Calendar for 2023-2024 until a future meeting** was seconded by Pablo. The draft of the academic calendar for 2023-2024 is was shared and discussed. TMES decided to schedule Winter Break (not in alignment with APS or RRPS) to allow for holiday travel. APS and RRPS begin their Winter Break on Monday, December 25th which seemed to unfriendly for families' travel plans. The motion to table approval of calendar to future date passed unanimously.

Discussion – Board Training

Alan will complete bord training this upcoming meeting. Mary will complete additional 3 hours required for new members soon.

New Business – Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment

Mary's motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Pablo. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Signed:

Governing Council of The Montessori Elementary & Middle School

By: _____
Jordan M. Reed, Secretary