



**Washington Montessori
 Public Charter School**
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**Approved
 April Minutes**

April 20th, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Mission Statement: *Our mission is to inspire academic excellence; to nurture curiosity, creativity, and imagination; and to do so within an environment rich with warmth, kindness, and respect.*

Board of Trustee Members (Voting)	Board of Trustee Ex-Officio Members (Non-Voting)
X Jamie Midgette, Chair X Lisa Lawless, Secretary X Joseph Knox, Member Sara Watson, Member X Alexis Kelly, Member	Darla Prescott, Directress of Education and Academics X Austin Andrews, Acting Director of Education and Academics X Rick Yakubowski, Director of Finance and Operations X Amber Miller, Faculty Representative Mindy Griffin, MPTO Representative

Acronyms Used: Board of Trustees (BoT), Head of School (HoS), Montessori Parent Teacher Organization (MPTO)

OPEN SESSION

ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY AND BASIS	REFERENCE OR ATTACHMENTS
Call to Order 7:02 pm	Jamie Midgette called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Members were present and represented by the "X" mark above. Lisa Lawless read the Mission Statement.	Member sign-in sheet
Agenda	Agenda reviewed Add BOT Community Election to Action Items MOTION: Joseph Knox made a motion to accept the agenda as amended to add BoT Election to Action Items. Lisa Lawless 2nd. All in Favor. Motion carried.	
Privilege of the Floor	Privilege of the floor: 3 min timekeeper • Joy Hemby	See Public Comments
Action Items	Approval of 03-16-23 Minutes reviewed. Jamie called an amendment to add Alexis Kelly to non-voting members on the minutes. MOTION: Lisa Lawless made a motion to accept the 03-16-23 minutes with amendments. Joseph Knox 2nd. All in favor and the Motion carried.	

	<p>2. Reported Crystal Swindell has resigned from the BoT as of 04-19-23. BoT would like to initiate the Nomination committee again to elect new community members.</p> <p>3. CIPA - Internet Safety Policy -Discussed and concurred that we are compliant with the 4 requirements from DPI.</p> <p>Lisa Lawless inquired if all the students in Middle School have enough time their assignments done during the day if they do not take home the Chromebooks. Mrs. Cornelius reported that students were given the option to take one home if needed.</p> <p>The Board Recognizes that the School is compliant with the CIPA Policy and submits the CIPA Update report.</p>	
<p>New Business/ Next Agenda/Discussion</p>	<p>No one present from Student Government</p> <p>Mrs. Cornelius reported they will have a report in May for the Board</p> <p>Faculty Report: Presented by Amber Miller, Lower Elementary Guide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teacher Workday- Able to Report Cards and have Parent Conferences. ● KidsFest- Enjoyed so much the other students coming around to view the projects. Loved having the high school students come over. Students really enjoyed it. ● Staff liked moving KidsFest to right before Spring Break, and enjoyed having a break after the event. ● EOGs and MAPS testing ● The shortage for sub for teachers at this time ● Acknowledged Mrs. Omonde and Kidsfest and all her hard work with the students. Dances were wonderful <p>MPTO Report: Not present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reported by Mrs. Andrews: Bertie County Peanut Fundraiser profit of \$3,450 <p>Children's House Report: Presented by JoDee Anderson, Children's House Head of School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CH hatched eggs! What an exciting time! For 	<p>See Report</p>

the first time in our history of hatching eggs, we were 7 for 7! We had discussed and prepared the children for the harsh reality that not all eggs hatch and there was a good chance that not all seven of our eggs would hatch. We were all overjoyed to discover that all seven eggs hatched. This science experiment teaches many different concepts: patience, concentration, math (How many more days,....eggs,...ratio?), science (humidity, evaporation, temperature, condensation) and especially language! The children were thrilled to share their knowledge with others about our hatch.

- I took part in an all-day training on Basic School Threat Assessment and Management Training on March 22nd along with Austin Andrews.
- Mar 23, 2023 We had a follow-up training with Kathy Carico to touch base and ask questions about our level Child Study process and procedures.
- End of Quarter Mar 23, 2023 . Report Cards and Skills Inventory Checklist were sent home on Mar 27, 2023 Parent conferences were held the week of the 27th- 31st.
- On April 3rd one class visited our sweet, precious friends and St. John's Housing. The children filled Easter baskets with handmade cards, back scratchers, chocolate bunnies, jellybeans, eggs filled with money, emery boards, compacts, and many other items! As always, the residents loved it all! The children sang "Spring themed songs" and were able to visit and practice their grace and courtesy skills. We have spread joy throughout the development to all 37 residents. We appreciate WMPTO supporting this outreach.
- On April 4th, one of our classrooms was invited to an egg hunt at Ridgewood Nursing Home. Earlier in the year each class was to "adopt" a need in the community. (Because our curriculum actually requires community service, this is a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn the meaning of kindness, compassion, grace, and so many other things.) The class that visited Ridgewood earlier in the year was invited by the Activities Director to come back and participate in an egg hunt. Children visited the residents to deliver eggs and then the children were treated to an egg hunt and refreshments.
- KidsFest was a success as usual. The children in our level dressed as children from all over the world. We studied the seven continents during our school year so we were short a few continents that we have not studied yet. This is due to Kidsfest coming in early April this year

instead of May. During each month starting in November, we study the animals, landforms, climate, people, and places on each continent. We make artwork and projects that teach each area.

- Ms. Gay treated all classes in CH by reading the book Pete the Cat: Big Easter Adventure along with a candy-filled egg.
- One class did an on-campus outreach and delivered chocolate candy, fresh strawberries, and a child's card to the administration and others on campus.
- Spring break was a much-needed reset, and now we are all ready for a strong finish to what has been a wonderful year.
- Jamie Midgette questioned if the students got the watch the eggs hatching.

**Elementary Report: Presented by Austin Andrews,
UE Head of School and Acting Director**

- All students participating in a book club/literature circle in their classroom
- Poorman's Restaurant hot lunch-UE business
- LE field trip to Sylvan Bird Park
- UE Field trip to Bath
- Kidsfest
- 6th-grade field trip to Camp Don Lee first week in May

**Secondary Report: Presented by Jennifer
Cornelius, Secondary Coordinator**

- NHS community service Red Cross blood drive was April 18th. 23 pints of blood were collected!!!
- Children's House has invited the Seniors to breakfast on May 5th for their Senior Breakfast. Diplomas arrived this week! It is almost time for our seniors! They have purchased a ping pong table as their gift back to the school and it should arrive soon.
- The one-to-one Chromebook program has gone well. They will return them on May 23 so we can prepare for state testing.
- Secondary 1 did an OUTSTANDING job learning and presenting Egypt for KidFest!
- Secondary 1 EOY trip will be May 8-10 to the Williamsburg area.
- NYC trip is this coming Monday, 24 students attending and 5 staff members.
- Prom is May 26th and Middle School Dance is June 1st.

Secondary Going Out Experiences:

- The Drama Club went to DPAC to see *Beetlejuice* over spring break.
- 9th Grade Art Classes went to the Estuarium to sketch for a cross-curriculum community outing.
- Secondary 2 NY Trip group leaves on Monday for 5 days in the Big Apple! Thank you Mrs. Cairco for taking the lead on the trip! Thank you, Mrs. Harrington, Mrs. Andrews, and Mr. Griekspoor for chaperoning Mrs. Cairco.

See Report

Mrs. Kelly questioned if the Parents are giving a list of the other parents who are chaperoning the field trip. Mrs. Cornelius replied that she knows the parents will get a list of contact numbers of staff (with phone numbers) and hotel information, but was not sure about the chaperone list. Would gather more information.

Secondary Entrepreneurship Opportunities:

- 9th-grade concessions and Drama Club businesses raised approximately \$600 at KidFest with a concession stand.
- KidFest t-shirts were sold by the Art Class online.
- BBQ dinner in Secondary 1 was a huge success!

Secondary Experiences hosted on Campus:

- Practical Life students presented their career exploration project/job fair during an afternoon community event and later shared with the Upper Elementary students.
- The Design and Communication class presented their Cereal Marketing Project for the entire Secondary to view.

Community Opportunities:

- Athletic Booster Club Interest Meeting - March 23rd
- Parent Conference Opportunity March 27th - March 31st
- BBQ Plate Fundraiser-Middle School - March 30th
- Prospective Parent Tour - April 5th
- KidsFest - April 6th
- NYC Trip Meeting - April 6th
- National Honor Society Blood Drive - April 18th

Finances: Presented by Rick Yakubowski, Director of Finance and Operations

- Reported that the BBQ fundraiser gross was over \$6000

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussed/Reviewed the July 2022- March 2023 Financial Report ● Joseph Knox questioned if legal service is under Administrative Services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requested another breakdown for just legal fees. ○ March Legal \$4900 ○ Will breakdown Administrative fees down further with legal ● Austin Andrews reported that the waitlist is now up to 80 applications ● Discussed the Behavior Threat Assessment Training - Rick, Austin, Amanda, Jo Dee, Jennifer, Carol completed. Working on starting a team for the next school year and would like to report that in August. ● EC Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 67 students and 1 referral. Mr. Joseph inquired if everything was moving along at normal speed. Mrs. Andrews acknowledge that it was. <p>Jamie Midgette reported that he had spoken with Darla and she is doing better and getting more mobility back and is looking forward to returning. Thanked Austin Andrews for her service.</p> <p>Shanon Jarvis spoke about a "heart-safe school" designation - Reported her son has a heart condition. Spoke about Project Adam and the email she sent to the Board. Wanted to make sure we have ADA and that all staff has access to it as well. Would like to review the information and implement a "heart-safe school" or implement policy. Does cost money and may get grants for that. Would be willing to lead up that project. Board will forward the email information to the administration for review.</p>	
Other Business/Motions		
Closed Session	<p>MOTION: At 7:50 p.m. Lisa Lawless made a motion to enter a closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a). Joseph Knox 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.</p>	Student Personnel
Return to Open Session and Adjournment	<p>MOTION: At 9:20 p.m. Joseph Knox made a motion to enter the Open Session. Alexis Kelly 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.</p> <p>MOTION: At 9:20 p.m. Joseph Knox made a motion to approve the employment contract for Stroud Winstead to teach PE k-12 and serve as Athletic</p>	

	<p>Director for the upcoming 2023-24 school year. Alexis Kelly 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.</p> <p>MOTION: At 9:22 p.m. Lisa Lawless moved to name Alexis Kelly as Board of Treasurer. Joseph Knox 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.</p> <p>MOTION: At 9:22 p.m. Alexis Kelly moved to adjourn. Joseph Knox 2nd. All in favor. Motion carried.</p>	
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Community Members at the Meeting: See Sign-in

1. Jennifer Cornelius
2. Joy Hemby
3. Amanda Holton
4. Amber Miller
5. Donna Johnson
6. JoDee Johnson
7. Camera Guy-did not sign in
8. Erica Gurganus



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For Approval

Public Comments

April 20th, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

The privilege of the Floor:

3 min timekeeper

Public Comments Protocol read by Lisa Lawless

1. Joy Hemby

Announced that we all knew who she was.

Address the community letter that was send on Monday, April 18, 2023

- Wording that employee is facing changes when she has been charged, and facing defense
- Questioned the cooperation of school from the police
- Wants the Board to acknowledge that they where contacted during Christmas Break
- Questioned if the teacher resigning during Christmas break, stated that was not true, asked to have that fixed

Jamie responded that he was emailed during Christmas Break and respond to Mrs. Hemby and advise her to contact the police department. He said the school was full corporation with the law during the entire investigation and notified the appropriate state and local departments.

Joy Hemby, respond (1 minute time left)- Wants Mrs. Andrews to acknowledge that she was contacted in late January and told Mrs. Hemby that she would not discuss the case with her any further. Then Mrs. Hemby states she spoke with Mrs. Darla Prescott and she agreed that files where not secure.

Mr. Rick Yakubowski responded that at that time in January that the police department did close the case and it was re opened at a later time.

Mrs. Hemby responded that the case was only closed because the police Captian Ronnie Watson closed the case and he is the boyfriend of employee at the school. Said that the case was covered up.

Mr. Midgette informed Mrs. Hemby her time was expired and that the Board was sorry these events happened at the school, but plan to comply with the local authorities in any way.