

Approved minutes 12/12/24 FS Board meeting
Meeting by Zoom only.

Approved by FS Board on 1/16/25

- The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Bill Doughty, Chair and a quorum was declared present
- Board members present were Jamie Dickson, Roger Preston, Marie Reimensnyder (arrived late), Susan Doughty, Bill Doughty
- Staff present: [Jacinda Cotton-Castro](#), Ex. Dir.
- Roger read the mission statement
- There was no public comment
- Consider minutes
 - Susan moved and Roger seconded approval of the minutes. Motion carried 2 to 0 with two abstentions.
- Financial Report for quarter 1 July to September.
 - Jacinda acknowledged Nicole's hard work
 - Making adjustments to the after school enrichment program.
 - Would like to move \$20,000/month into reserves.
 - Recommendations coming in regard to health insurance
 - Increase coming in January but smaller
 - Deductibles are lower and will give options to staff
 - Roger noted that health insurance is robust and a good deal for staff.
 - Back to Quarter 1 report with Bill
 - We walked through the spreadsheet as presented
 - Income and expenses lines were explained
 - Report reflects requirements from the state
 - No big differences noted; some questions exist
 - Enrichment programs help our budget balance.
 - Bottom of the report shows the balance in reserve accounts. These were explained.
 - Motion to accept the Financial Report for Dec. Jamie moved and Roger seconded. Motion carried 4 to 0
 - Motion to move \$20,000 per month into reserve accounts.

- Susan moved and Jamie seconded to authorize the Executive Director to move up to \$20,000 each month from the operating account to the general reserve account, ending in June 2025. If this is not possible due to cash flow, the Executive Director will contact the Board Chair and Treasurer to suggest another amount for the month in question. Motion carried 4 to 0
 - Jacinda and Nicole were thanked for their hard work on health insurance.
 - Executive Director Report
 - Excellent attendance and presentations on STEAM night
 - All school sing is back
 - After school enrichment is improving
 - Innovation is of great interest to the MCSC
 - Fiddlehead checks the boxes on innovative practices
 - Jacinda provided a long and impressive list of innovations we are engaged in.
 - Filming with videographer to develop tapes for marketing to address enrollment improvement. To this point, Fiddlehead has been all word of mouth.
 - Middleschool is involved too.
 - Compliments to Jacinda on good work; marketing will match students to the school.
 - Roger notes that marketing plans and innovations are impressive.
 - Jamie paused off the charts energy level on STEAM night. So much fun.
 - (Board member Marie Remensnyder signed in at this time)
 - Principal's report
 - Dress code has been successfully implemented. Very few issues largely due to the full process of developing the code.
 - A few items on graphics on T-shirts have been addressed. No weapons, alcohol, profanity.
 - Parents and students have been cooperative.

- All-school sing growing in popularity, considering expansion to 6-8th grade; larger turn outs of parents
- Lantern walk upcoming, expecting good turnout
- Mentoring for TA/Teachers is developing nicely.
- Monitoring chronic absenteeism; communication to parents and working with individual families.
- Marie suggested having classes be hosts or themes for all school sing. Perhaps at a larger venue.
- Transportation is going well. Ridership is down on the bus. More people are driving their students. Great bus driver.
- **Wellness Committee Update**
 - Faculty retreat planned for March 21st, focusing on self-care
 - Implementing "mindfulness minutes" in classrooms
 - Exploring regulated classroom strategies and teacher training
 - Successful Board-sponsored faculty appreciation soup luncheon was held.
 - Marie praised the work of the Wellness Committee which is well beyond muffins.
 - Jacinda thanked Susan and the team for growing the mindful minute.
 - Susan moved and Marie seconded to enter executive session. Motion carried.

The Board returned from executive session.

Susan moved and Jamie seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Next meeting is January 16, 2025

