

Montessori Academy at Edison Lakes
Board Meeting - Zoom
January 14, 2025

Board of Trustees in attendance: Jena O'Brien, Secretary; Katharine Lyvers, Treasure; Maria Muffoletto; Kiara Moore, President; Corey Hurcomb, President Elect, Charlie Brach; and Jen LaPrad, Past President

Staff/Faculty in attendance: Kathy Kolata, Head of School; Matt Jun, Director of Finance; Kelli Collins, Director of Advancement; and Kim Bosworth, Director of Admissions

Guests in attendance: Aaron, Abby Joiner, Abigail Wolf, Amber, Annie, Ashley Miller, Austin's Phone, Avis, Becky's iPhone, Ben Garman, BEN's iPad, Brittani Hoff, Caitlin Clements, Caitlin Cline, Caitlin Olivier, Carrie Dunnem, Colin Pier-Silver, Colleen Spano, Darius Lipsey, Emily Kavas, Eric and Kaitlin, Erin Gaul, Fallon, Gabrielse, Gage Hudak, Heather Solfronk, Holly Welch, iPad (3), iPhone, iPhone (2), iPhone (3), iPhone (97), Jaime Sanchez Alba, Jimmy's iPhone, jmburch@iu.edu, Jn2187, Julia Qian, Kristi Gouker, Kyle Loescher, Laney Smous, LeMere family, Lindsay Kurz, Lisa, Luis Alfonso, Maggie Mendez, Mariah Cressy, Matt S, Michele Collins, Nicci, Nicholas Mainieri, Nicole S., Olive.123, Oliver Evelyn Liam & Jonah Fausto, Phil Kurz, Ramona Kim, Raven's iPhone, Robert Rosenbaum, Sammy Yant, Sara Marcus, Sarah Overholser, Savannah, Sheena Zent, Stacey Mare, Sofia, Tanya's iPhone, Tara Leonard, Taya Keeler, unicornsparkles, Will Keeler, WSBT 22, Yolanda's iPhone

Board of Trustees Absent: Cassidy Martenson

OPEN SESSION NOTES

Call to Order

- Kiara Moore, President, called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm
- Roll call conducted by Jena O'Brien

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

- Minutes from September for review and approval
- Jen LaPrad motioned to approve, Jena O'Brien seconded
- Motion passed unanimously

Statement from the BOT

- Kiara Moore read a statement on behalf of the Board of Trustees regarding the financial situation

Advancement Update (Kelli Collins)

- December recap

- Kelli Collins had to pivot from her original plan and worked with Kathy Kolata to address the financial situation
- December Advancement Committee meeting was canceled to address payroll issues
- Kelli Collins met with the board to address financial concerns and think of strategies moving forward
- Kelli Collins found that there was a shortfall in donations from previous months/years
- Windfall will no longer be held at Four Winds Casino
 - Both the DJ and emcee for this event were also canceled
- Kelli Collins plans on creating a three, nine, and summer plan for fundraising and advancement efforts at TMA
- Instead of one larger event like Windfall, we will have three smaller separate events
 - February: Dance/ Lock In
 - March: Trivia night
 - Will see if the DJ for this event will donate their time
 - May: TMA Family reunion
 - Scaled down version of Windfall
 - Ticket sales/live auctions
 - All these events will have sponsorship opportunities
- Going forward, Kelli Collins and the Advancement Committee will look to get donations from business and community members and not have to rely so much on families and the board
- Kelli Collins and Kathy Kolata are working on a capital campaign to continue raising funds
- Finalized implementation of the Parent Network
 - Had to go through a process with the by-laws but is now ready to do so

Safety and Facilities Update (Corey Hurcomb and Kathy Kolata)

- Safety updates
 - The committee met twice in December 2024
 - The committee gathered information for Kathy Kolata to write a grant for Indiana Homeland Security for facility updates and maintenance
- Facilities
 - The committee met twice in December 2024
 - The committee plans on doing a walk-through in the spring to outline priorities of needs for maintenance
 - The committee will also do a threat assessment to contribute to the Homeland Security grant
 - The board will be invited to join the walkthrough

Accreditation (Kathy Kolata)

- Kathy Kolata has been in touch with both the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) and the American Montessori Society (AMS) and all agreed to delaying the accreditation process until we are in a better financial situation
 - TMA initially did not receive the accreditation extension that other schools received due to COVID-19
 - We now have permission to delay our accreditation for one year
 - Kathy Kolata will continue meeting with our partners at both organizations

Committee of Trustees (Corey Hurcomb)

- Corey Hurcomb had a convo with a potential candidate
 - A parent who would like to join the board
- Corey Hurcomb told those in attendance that if they were interested in joining the board, they could reach out to him for additional information

Jena O'Brien motioned to adjourn the open session and Maria Muffoletto seconded at 6:24 p.m.