

Charter Mission Amendment Request

Charterholder Info

Charter Holder

Name:
Montessori Academy, Inc.

CTDS:
07-89-77-000

Mailing Address:
2928 North 67th Place
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
> [View detailed info](#)

Representative

Name:
Julianne Newman

Phone Number:
480-945-1121

Fax Number:
480-874-2928

Downloads

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Mission

Change From

We nurture and challenge the whole person to balance academic excellence, personal integrity, environmental awareness and global responsibility. We embrace the core Montessori philosophy through the use of multi-age classrooms, authentic Montessori materials and a Montessori-trained faculty. We augment our program with Outdoor Environments, an agriculture curriculum, Honor Council, special education, a full "virtues curriculum" and gifted children's programs.

Change To

Mission - We will use the principles of Maria Montessori as the foundation of our educational philosophy in a manner which fosters and elicits learning. We will create evolving environments, making each day a productive step in the journey to the ultimate goal: a child who is motivated, independent, and has a love of learning.

Attachments

Board Minutes –  [Download File](#)

Additional Information*

No documents were uploaded.

Signatures

Charter Representative Signature
Julianne Newman 03/26/2012

**MONTESSORI ACADEMY, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
6050 N Invergordon Rd
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253
March 21, 2012
5:30 PM**

PRESENT: KEN HULS, KERI KIRBY, MICHAEL ROWLAND, KRISTA CROSS, GEORGE WOOD, MAEGAN ALFORD, WANDA WRIGHT, MICHELLE REYNOLDS

ABSENT: 1- JUSTIN GULESERIAN

PUBLIC: 0

STANDING GUEST: 2 (Lia Rowland and Bob Brown)

1. Ken Huls, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:36p.m.
2. Call to Public: No public present
3. Acknowledgements: Ken Huls noted that conduct in the school as a whole is improving. This improvement is because of a team effort between all staff. Krista Cross Thanked George Wood for helping with the science fair. Juli Newman stated an adult outside of our community stated that the children are very polite and respectful. Maegan Alford stated that parents on a tour of the school commented on the welcoming community we have. Also thanked the Bylaw committee for making the document readable and in language easy to understand. Wanda Wright acknowledged Tech Team member GQ for helping Ms Char with the computer upgrades. She also acknowledged and thanked Juli Newman for creating a great team. Juli Newman acknowledged Ms Gartner who volunteered to help in Mrs. Cross' class so Mrs. Cross can observe in other classrooms. Juli Newman also thanked Lia Rowland for all of her help volunteering and heading up the fundraising event. Keri Kirby thanked Michelle Reynolds for all her help revising the Bylaws.
4. Krista Cross presented the Montessori Academy Attribute of the Month – Gratitude. The students are creating a personal gratitude list as well as a specific list of school gratitude's headed by Wanda Wright.
5. Finance Committee – Mike Rowland gave an overview of the finance report. There has been some NSF check fees accrued. Mike Rowland and Wanda Wright meet every 2 weeks to review areas of savings. Reviewed the possible joining of Charter and Private into one company. Ken Huls thanked Juli Newman, Mike Rowland and Bob Brown for their role in cutting back expenses. There is a \$5000 legal fee on the report. This fee is for legal review of an unfounded accusation. It was necessary to expend these resources to protect the school.

Due to Bob Brown being present and needing his input on a topic later in the agenda, Julie Newman moved to discuss agenda item 8e. Maegan Alford seconded, approved 8-0

8e. Company Merger-Private to Charter: Discussion. Juli Newman noted pros of the merger: easier for finances, curriculum, parents and Board, legal benefits, efficiency, and cost savings. Administration will meet with attorneys and auditor to discuss the transition blueprint. The structure of the Board and Bylaws will change with the merger. Juli Newman will present at April Board meeting to take action on possible restructuring by June 30th, 2012.

6. Approval of the Draft February 15, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes – Ken Huls moved to accept the minutes as amended. Wanda Wright seconded. Approved 8-0. The February 15, 2011 minutes were approved as amended.

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business

a. Proposed Amendments to Montessori Academy, Inc. By-Laws: Action Item for Adoption. Ken Huls suggests submitting the Bylaws despite to proposed restructuring. Wanda Wright recommends a facilities committee be added to the Bylaws as a standing committee. See verbiage to be added below:

The Facilities Committee assists the Board of Montessori Academy in (1) providing leadership and oversight for the construction, revitalization, and maintenance of the Montessori Academy's physical plant and (2) engaging the Montessori Academy community and other stakeholders to address, on a continuing basis, Montessori Academy's facilities needs.

George Wood moves to adopt the new Bylaws as proposed by the Bylaws committee as amended at this meeting. Keri Kirby seconds, Approved 8-0. The revised version will be sent to members of the Board and posted on the Montessori Academy website once edits and additions are complete.

b. State Board of Charter Schools Amendment to Vision and Mission Late Submission: Review and Action. New mission and vision submitted to the State Charter Board are as follows:

Our Vision:

Montessori Academy will guide children on their journey into a continually evolving, dynamic world that engages their minds and enlivens their imaginations. Each component of the educational journey will instill a love of learning, high self-esteem, and positive values resulting in high academic achievement.

Our Mission:

We will use the principles of Maria Montessori as the foundation of our educational philosophy in a manner which fosters and elicits learning. We will create evolving environments, making each day a productive step in the journey to the ultimate goal: a child who is motivated, independent, and has a love of learning.

Juli Newman moves to adopt the new mission and vision, seconded by Maegan Alford, Approved 8-0.

c. Alcohol at School Events: Discussion of School Policy. Ken Huls asks Board members to review the current policy and be prepared to discuss at next meeting.

d. Approval of Alcohol Sales for April Movie Night: Action Item. Next movie night is April 27, 2012. Ken Huls tables vote until next meeting due to timeframe of the event.

- e. See notes on discussion earlier in the meeting
 - f. Board Composition: Discussion. Ken Huls requested Board members think about who would be a fit for the Board including those outside of our Community.
 - g. Vacant Board Officer Position - Vice President: Discussion and Possible Action. The Vice President role and duties were reviewed. Please send possible candidates to Ken Huls.
 - h. Scheduling Board Event - Screening of "Waiting for Superman". The Board will meet April 28, 2012 at 3:00 to screen this film.
 - i. Board Member Training: Planning and Discussion. Juli Newman has added this as a part of the strategic planning goal with completion before school starts in the Fall.
 - j. Fostering Montessori Academy Culture: Update. Maegan Alford reported that Jr Elementary and parents are planting and have made strong progress. Wanda Wright stated there will be one more Montessori Night before the end of the school year.
 - k. Short Term Financial Outlook: Update. This item is addressed in the strategic plan. Juli Newman is working on an Annual Teachers Fund as a long-term plan as well.
 - l. Improving Achievement Measures: Update. AIMS testing is mid April. Administration administering sample tests and possible extra tutorials.
 - m. Marketing Plan: Status Report. Juli Newman and parent volunteer are working on strategies. These strategies include a more robust home page of the website & a blog. Completion of a marketing plan grid to plan moving forward.
 - n. Proposed Montessori High School: Update. Curriculum has been submitted to the State Board and more info has been requested. Waiting on Town of Paradise Valley to offer final approval of the addition of modular units. Goal is have units in place by Fall for addition of 9th and 10th grades.
 - o. Enrollment Update: Data and Analysis for Discussion. Enrollment is up. Exact numbers not available at this time.
 - p. Campus Development Update. Few spaces are left for Fall enrollment. Juli Newman will be meeting on faculty placement for next school year.
 - q. School Sports and Athletic Programs Update. Swim team will be starting for 4th grade and up. Archery starts in April and soccer will be added next year.
9. Faculty Report. Maegan Alford stated teacher contracts for next year are in progress. Teachers has been sick recently but it looks like the worst is over.
10. Committee Reports:
- a. Education Committee. Krista Cross reported that new students are having screenings after 45 days in class. Standardized test organization for 3rd graders in the works. Earth day activities are planned for April as well as Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart benefiting the American Heart Association. These events showcase the idea of community and giving.
 - b. Executive Committee. Ken Huls stated that behavior has improved, no suspensions, no fights. He is happy to see the school is developing to its potential and proud to be a part of this community.
 - c. Information Technology Committee. George Wood stated the group has better defined an upload procedure. 60 new PC's are being rebuilt and should have 100 by end of summer.

11. Agenda Items for the April Meeting of the Board of Directors: Discussion. Keri Kirby will not be present at April 2012 meeting.
12. Final Call for Public Comment on Agendized Items and Non-Agendized Matters. Due to an oversight in the agenda, Lia Rowland presented the MAP Report at this point in the meeting. MAP publically thanked the top 5 volunteers with special gifts. Monte Carlo night is Saturday March 24th. Preparations for Teacher Appreciation Week are being made for the week of May 7-11. MAP elections are next month. She will be asking each teacher if they know of a good leader for the MAP group. March 28th is the next MAP coffee.
13. Adjournment. Adjournment – Ken Huls moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:36pm with Wanda Wright seconding. Approved 8-0 with no further discussion.

NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MONTESSORI ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Wednesday April 18, 2012, 5:30PM, at 6050 N. Invergordon Rd., Paradise Valley, AZ 85253, Rm. 13,
Middle School Bldg.

Submitted by Michelle Reynolds, Secretary