



**Casa Esperanza Montessori
Minutes of the Board of Directors
September 3, 2020 - 6:00 p.m.**

The following are minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Casa Esperanza Montessori School Incorporated, a North Carolina non-profit corporation, (the “School”), held via teleconference at the time and date noted above.

Member	Present	Absent
Monique Taylor Chair	X	
Seraka Davis Vice Chair	X	
Alice Ward Treasurer	X	
Mike Slipsky Secretary	X	
Dan Chilton	X	
Jon Lee	X	
Monica Perry	X	
Seth Wood	X	
GeRita Connor Head of School	X	

Also present at the meeting were Anna Foley and Barbara Cooke.

Proper notice having been given and a quorum of directors being present, the meeting was called to order by Mrs. Taylor at 6:00 p.m.

I. WELCOME

Mrs. Taylor welcomed everyone.

Conflict of interest statement read and presented along with mission statement.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Wood motioned to approve consent agenda with one addition, creation of an LLC entity, Mr. Lee seconded and all approved 7-0.

Mrs. Davis joined the meeting.

Mr. Chilton motioned to approve the minutes from August 15th and 27th, Mr. Slipsky seconded and all approved 8-0.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No one presented during public comment.

IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were no announcements.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Reopening plan – The Board and Mrs. Connor reviewed an outline with considerations regarding the reopening plan. The current plan C involves virtual learning only, while plan B would phase students in for on-campus classes on certain days and in smaller groups. Considerations include but are not limited to limiting the number of students in the building, overlapping schedules for faculty and students, social distancing and face covering requirements, faculty concerns and limited substitutes, students having access to materials, and

funding for supplies and for tutoring. Some additional areas of concern while remaining on plan C include social and emotional impacts on learning, and support for parents assisting their immersion students. Teachers are planning a support session along with resources for families during virtual learning. The Exceptional Children (EC) Director is confident that we are offering a high level of support of EC students, although several would benefit from being in the building. Plan A (full-time on campus learning) is not currently an option with the State.

Academic data – children were tested on iStation for reading and 6th graders took a common assessment. There are concerns with math results for some students in grades 4 – 8. Supporting student needs in reaching the standards is a major priority. Current 4th graders did not take the EOG so there is not an official guide for those standards. Mrs. Connor pointed out that many of these students are in the Immersion program and have been tested in English. Some are testing below their grade level. Support for these students would be done in English.

Mr. Slipsky left the meeting at 7:16pm.

Board members have mixed feelings and discussed different option to try to support student needs best.

Mr. Lee made a motion to defer reopening school decision until next meeting, and Mr. Chilton seconded. The motion was discussed, and the Board felt a need to make a more definitive plan. When calling for the vote, Mr. Lee upheld his motion and the remaining members opposed 1-6. The motion failed.

Mr. Chilton motioned to move to Plan B by November 30 with a virtual learning option available for rest of the year, Mr. Wood seconded and all approved 7-0.

VI. Old Business-

Mrs. Perry motioned to move into closed session at 7:47 p.m. for a confidential real estate and contractual matter in accordance with: NC Gen. Statute 143-318.11(a) (6) Mr. Lee seconded and all approved 7-0.

Mr. Perry made a motion to return to open session at 8:56 p.m., Mr. Ward seconded and all approved 7-0.

BCCG Interim Agreement –

Mrs. Ward motioned to approve the revised agreement with the written edits proposed by Ms. Rusher, Mrs. Perry seconded and all approved 7-0.

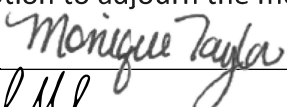

Creation of an LLC-

Mrs. Perry motioned to approve the name Casa Esperanza Holding, LLC to be created by Ms. Rusher, Mrs. Davis seconded and all approved 7-0.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- I. Board Affairs – No updates to report at this time.
- II. Communications – No updates to report at this time.
- III. Development – No updates to report at this time.
- IV. Facilities – General updates were presented in earlier discussion.
- V. Finance – Monthly financials and updates were presented earlier in the agenda.

Mrs. Perry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m., Mrs. Davis seconded and all approved 7-0.

 / 09/29/20 Monique Taylor, Board Chair
 / 10/8/20 Mike Slipsky, Board Secretary