



**Casa Esperanza Montessori  
Minutes of the Board of Directors  
January 21, 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. Davis at 6:00 p.m.

**I. WELCOME**

Mrs. Davis welcomed everyone.

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

## II. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Lee motioned to approve consent agenda, Mrs. Perry seconded and all approved 6-0.

Mrs. Perry motioned to approve the board minutes from the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, Mr. Chilton seconded and all approved 6-0.

Mr. Wood motioned to approve the board minutes from the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, Mrs. Perry seconded and all approved 6-0.

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

IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** No announcements.

## V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Head of School Report highlighted that there are 551 charter students currently enrolled, including 7 withdrawals since winter break. Some of the reasons for withdrawals included relocation, in-person instruction preferences due to pandemic reopening phases, and concerns with teacher assignment - teacher concerns were not expressed prior to withdrawal. In academic health, faculty just completed NCCI2 grade 3-8 in math, language and science, and will identify which students need interventions. There were two standards that students were tested on and because that material has not been covered yet, results show as regression. In Grades 5-8 all classes except one showed an increase and improvement from NC Check-In 1. The administration is planning after school tutoring, after hours hotline for parents to help with extra support and a summer academic and remediation support. Mrs. Connor has issued an interest form and 10 staff members have responded affirmatively to participate in this program. There are no current curriculum needs at this time; past resources have been very beneficial to our current virtual learning environment. The EC caseload has not changed since last meeting. Nine families attended the 2021-2022 virtual tour on January 13<sup>th</sup>. There is an advertisement running for the lottery with Fun4RaleighKids.com, and there has been an increase in traffic since that ad went up. Faculty vacancies include positions in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade language art and social studies teachers, technology (repost), and speech therapist since the current one is leaving. A new teacher with immersion program experience is currently being onboarded.

December Financials – state revenue is spent as a priority, and financials are at 50% of the annual budget for revenue and expenses. For the Charter school segment, 54% of the budget has been spent. Private program income has been impacted by the pandemic. There have been additional technology expenses. Any Covid-19 funds received through federal programs will be prioritized to spend prior to September 30, 2021.

2021-2022 School Calendar – review and early proposal with 5 virtual days included, very similar to this school year.

Mrs. Perry moved to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar, Mrs. Ward seconded and all approved 6-0.

## VI. **OLD BUSINESS:**

Financing – Mrs. Ward presented different options of interim financing.

VII. **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

- a. Board Affairs:
  - No updates to report at this time.
- b. Communications:
  - Met with Johnny Rafidi of BVM for advertising with their magazine
- c. Development:
  - Fundraising is lower than previous years at this time
  - Creating a one page view of the development committee
- d. Finance:
  - Need to do budget revision and do a modified budget for this year.
  - Finance reports presented earlier
- e. Construction & Facility Management:
  - Facility management meeting with BPG to discuss possible early termination lease options
  - Real estate transaction is still in progress and on schedule

Mr. Lee made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m., Mr. Chilton seconded and all approved 6-0.

*Monique Taylor*

/ 5/1/21

Monique Taylor, Board Chair

*Michael Slipsky*

/ 5/1/21

Mike Slipsky, Board Secretary