



**Casa Esperanza Montessori**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors**  
**March 4, 2021 - 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 6:01 p.m.

**I. WELCOME**

Mrs. Taylor welcomed everyone.

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

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Ward motioned to approve consent agenda with the addition of Covid response, Mrs. Perry seconded and all approved 5-0.

Mrs. Ward motioned to approve the Board minutes from the February 8<sup>th</sup>, February 11<sup>th</sup>, and February 18<sup>th</sup> meetings, Mr. Wood seconded and all approved 5-0.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mrs. Press made a statement regarding the high number of students in the lower elementary classrooms with some of the younger students and suggested staggering days to increase the social distancing.

IV. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** New information related to the Covid response has been provided to the Head of School; the Board will need to discuss at this meeting.

V. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Lottery Enrollment Status – currently at 387 for the charter applications and 13 for the Pre-K applications, totaling 400 at this time.

Vision Services Contract (revised) – a specific description of mobility teacher and additional travel time has increased due to a change in the assignment of the provider. The revised contract has increased by \$240.

Mr. Chilton moved to approve the revised contract for Equal Eyes vision services, Mrs. Perry seconded and all approved 5-0.

Revised Budget FY21 – summary and detail of all changes made to the budget since approval in June has been provided to the Board. The ADM is being funded for 561 students. County funding has increased. For Federal funding the school received \$440,000. Private programs had a significant change; the projected income was 185,000 and for pre-school \$195,000. Income has been decreased by \$30,000 and \$25,000, respectively, due to on-campus adjustments in response to the pandemic. Other minor adjustments were made and were reviewed line by line with the Board. Currently the year-end projection is a surplus of \$466,261.

Mrs. Ward moved to approve the revised budget as presented, Mrs. Perry seconded and all approved 5-0.

Trademark In Kind Donation – an official memo from Trademark was provided to the Board asking for the Board to agree to their reduction in commission to the school and donating the 3% commission from the seller to the school. The decision is tabled until the next meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS:**

Facility updates – Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Taylor meet every other week with BCCG; their last meeting was on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The focus has been on the milestones list, which includes reviewing facility layouts, parking spaces, sewer connections, etc. The Board has received a proposed 3D concept and elevations for feedback at a later date. Everything appears to be on track and on schedule at this time.

Mrs. Perry motioned to move into closed session at 6:40 p.m. to discuss the school's COVID safety response to private information: NC Gen. Statutes & 143-318.11(a)-(6). Mr. Chilton seconded and all approved 5-0.

Covid Response – discussed in closed session

Mr. Wood made a motion to return to open session at 7:21 p.m., Mrs. Perry seconded and all approved 5-0.

Mrs. Perry made a motion that the school will be under full quarantine and continue on Plan C for all students until March 12<sup>th</sup> with return on March 15<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Wood seconded and all approved 5-0.

Mr. Chilton made a motion that the Board makes a strong recommendation to all Casa families and faculty that have been on Plan B to seek a Covid test within 5 days and if they need assistance the school will help to arrange where they can obtain a test, Mr. Wood seconded and all approved 5-0.

Mrs. Taylor made a motion that out of respect for our community, the Board strongly recommends that all families and faculty members abide by guidelines from the CDC and local health officials regarding social distancing and everyday preventive actions, Mrs. Perry seconded and all approved 5-0.

Mr. Chilton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m., Mr. Wood seconded and all approved 5-0.

*Monique Taylor*

/ 5/1/21

Monique Taylor, Board Chair

*Michael Slipsky*

/ 5/1/21

Mike Slipsky, Board Secretary