

FINAL

**Mulberry School Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Dec 14, 2022**

This meeting of the Mulberry School Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:39 pm at Mulberry School and via Zoom, after a special session from 6:10 - 6:35 pm.

Voting Trustees Present in Person

Cheri Goodman
Nicole Loventhal
Bill Pfahl
Fatosh Hacigumus

Voting Trustees Present via Zoom

Tiffany Coletti Kaiser
Malika Adam
Michelle Coddling
Timothy Wood

Non-Voting Trustees Present in Person

Kara Riordan HOS

Guests

Deborah Dowling (CAIS)
Julie McClung

Special session began at 6:10pm with guest Deborah Dowling from CAIS available for a question period about the process for accreditation.

Deborah departs.

Regular meeting called to order at 6:39pm.

Julie McClung joins.

Motion to approve agenda. Tee moves, Cheri seconds, all in favor.

November minutes will be sent out via email for review and an email vote to approve for posting.

Timekeeper: Bill

Marketing Update

Tee presents an update on the marketing investment and results for the past month:

Over 6000 postcards were sent out in November, and significantly increased website traffic indicates the postcard campaign was successful. Additionally, over 650 postcards have been mailed to website visitors, after which almost 20% of recipients revisit the website.

Content creation is in progress, with several pieces ready for copywriter review for posting in Dec and January.

Next steps include additional content creation, postcard retargeting, curating high quality photos, introducing swag.

Development Update

Tee presents an update on Development. Key points include:

The MoM fundraising campaign is ongoing, and donations now total 85% of the campaign's stated goal. The board matched \$10,400 in donations.

The fundraising event in April (replacing Steppin' Out) will be community oriented, and focused on families past, present, and future. Alumni, current families, and 2023-24 enrolled families will be invited. The likely date is Saturday April 22.

The November Open House occurred during a big rainstorm, resulting in low participation.

The team is organizing a recipe book & apron fundraiser, to occur this spring.

The Trustees acknowledged and thanked Tee for her exceptional efforts and contributions to the school and Board.

CAIS Update

Timothy presents an update. Key points include:

Participation is needed from the full board for the self study component of the accreditation document.

The team has started drafting the document, and are looking to have a complete draft ready for editing in the first week of January.

Julie McClung departs.

EXECUTIVE PORTION

Finance

Malika presents:

Due to the timing of this board meeting, the November budget to actual reports will be presented at the next board meeting, as finance wasn't able to close out the month yet.

The board engaged in a lengthy discussion on the topic of tuition levels for 2023-24. The board considered many factors including the Finance team's recommendation, inflation and rising costs, the

need for competitive teacher's pay, tuition levels of local independent schools, tuition trends, short term and long term sustainability, financial aid, and more.

Motion to approve the following 2 options (due to the length of day for Kindergarten being TBD) for tuition levels for the 2023-24 school year:

OPTION 1

PS 5 Full Days: \$23,000
PS 4 Full Days: \$18,500
PS 3 Full Days: \$15,900
PS 2 Full Days: \$10,600
PS 3 Half Days: \$9,540
PS 5 Half Days: \$15,900

JK and K: \$24,500
Grade 1-5: \$30,900

OPTION 2

Same preschool tuition levels as option 1. Increase Kindergarten's length of day by 1/2 hour.

JK: \$24,500
K: \$25,200
Grade 1-5: \$30,900

Cheri Moves, Bill seconds, all in favor.

The decision on which option (based on length of Kindergarten's school day) will be Kara's decision.

All Trustees' names will be included in the tuition letter, which will be drafted and sent out in the first week of January 2023.

The board agreed to end the meeting at this time, due to the extended discussion on tuition levels. There were no additional items that required addressing at this time.

Nicole reminded everyone of the confidentiality requirement for these meetings and reviewed the key takeaways.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21pm.

Key Takeaways:

Motions Approved:
Agenda for this meeting approved.
Tuition level options for 2023-24 approved.