

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL (EPMS) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

December 17, 2024

6:30pm-9:30pm

Location: 800 Hutchinson Rd, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER – 6:36 PM (Directors, Carson, L. Desautels, Dietrich, Hammons, Hernandez, Liskin, Mannion, and Womble)

1. MISSION STATEMENT- *The mission of the charter component of EPMS is to provide students with the opportunity to acquire an education based on an “authentic” and accredited curriculum founded on the educational philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. We intend to promote an educational atmosphere that encourages socioeconomic and cultural diversity by providing all students with the opportunity to obtain a quality public education. Our aim is to equip each of our students with the skills, knowledge, and values to participate meaningfully in the pluralistic world of the 21st century.*

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT- *Eagle Peak Montessori School acknowledges that we currently occupy land which is Ohlone land. The Ohlone people are still here and are still active. The Ohlone people are made of several tribes. The land we are on specifically is that of The Confederated Villages of Lisjan. As they say, the land did not belong to them, they created reciprocal relationships with the plants and animals they shared this space with.*

These words are shared from the Boston Public Schools Land Acknowledgement:

“We acknowledge the sacred land where we work, live, learn, teach, and build community, has been a place where people have lived for over tens of thousands of years. We recognize that invaders have repeatedly violated the sovereignty, territory, and water of the original inhabitants of the land for over 400 years. We extend our respect to the citizens of these Nations who live here today, and their ancestors and all indigenous people. We also affirm that this acknowledgment is insufficient. It does not undo the harm that has been done and continues to be perpetuated against indigenous people, their land and water. We also acknowledge they are still here.”

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

The public may address the EPMS board regarding any item within the board’s jurisdiction whether or not that item appears on the agenda.

- Speakers may have 3 minutes each for a maximum total of thirty minutes public comment.
- If more than 20 people wish to address the board, per person comment time for all speakers will be reduced to 2 min with a maximum total of one hour public comment.
- Speakers may not concede their time to another.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dir. Hernandez motioned to approve the 12/17/24 meeting agenda with the following corrections:.

- Under Call to order add “L.” and “s” to Dir L. Desautels name

Dir Liskin seconded. Motion passed unanimously (8-0)

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and will be approved/adopted by a single motion. It is expected that board members have reviewed these agenda items prior to meeting. There will be no separate discussion of these items; however, any item may be removed from the consent agenda upon the request of any member of the board and acted upon separately.

a. November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Dir Hernandez motioned to approve minutes for the November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting with the corrections below:

- Add “L.” and “s” to Dir L. Desautels name under 6e and 7d
- Correct the language in 7b to state: “The board will consider the matter of the EPA Funding for certified salaries. Dir Mannion moves to approve the motion that the EPA funding is spent for certified salaries and benefits.”
- On 6e add a “y” for non-profit ready

- On 7c change the date to 2023-24 Audit Report
- Dir Carson seconded the motion. Motion passes (7-0-1) Dir Lisikin abstained.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

a. AP Report

- New elective program
 - 3D printing - learning a lot
 - Theater Group- recreated *As You Like It* from Shakespeare
 - Market Day- each week is making between \$300-500. Total earnings over \$2500. Also learning Marketing
- Math Update: Pre Algebra/ Algebra 1 curriculum and the Number System of Ratios and Proportions
- Language Arts: What is Writing workshops
- Social Studies: Mapping World History, Current Events
- Science: Science Fair
- Community Enrichment Leadership and Life Goal (CELLS): SMART goals, leadership groups to lead parts of the day, leading lunch services
- PE, Team Sports, Tai Chi - working on volleyball and fitness test
- Art
- Upcoming Events: Winter Boutique, International Day, preparing for Love Letters for Valentines Day, Crab Feed

b. Staff Update

- Annual Report Draft completed. Highlights include below. Will review finalized report in January
 - 98.5% attendance for 2023-24 school year
 - Volunteer hours increased 50%
 - Interest in the lottery increased by 30%
 - Will look at gaps regarding test scores-
 - Will be hiring a math pull out staffing support in early 2025
 - Reading instructors will be getting additional training this summer
- Conference Recap: A lot of new laws going into effect
 - Have to practice active shooter drill- parents will be notified
- International Day on Thursday with Holiday Boutique

c. Facilities Update

- Fire Chief came out for School Tour
 - Will be purchasing new Exit signs for the classrooms
 - Fixing the Fire Alarm Panel

d. Treasurer's Update

- As of November, Forecast Budget- forecasting a \$62k loss - which is an improvement from Forecasted 2024-25 Budget.

e. CFEP Update

- Read-a-thon closed with approximately \$14k donation.
- Goal is to do the walk-a-thon in the spring
- P&L from July-November- showing slight loss. This is expected. A lot of money has been used for field trips upfront but most of the donations are pledged throughout the year.
- Annual funding is slightly down in 2024-25 thus far
- Auction- April 6, 2025. Amy Snook will be chairing the Auction at the Concord Historical Center. Food is being coordinated currently.

f. Other Board Communications

- i. Board retreat dates. Considering: 2/8/24, 3/8/24, 3/15/24, 3/29/24

7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- a. The board will consider the matter of the audit engagement letter with Nigro and Nigro. Requested updated engagement letter for 2024-2027. Rates have been set. This is the same firm that works with MDUSD. Audit guide has increased responsibility and rates are commensurate with increased responsibilities.

Dir Dietrich moves to approve the Audit Engagement Letter with Nigro and Nigro for 2024-25, 2025-26, and 2026-27 Fiscal Years. Dir Mannion seconded the motion. Motion approves unanimously (8-0)

8. ADJOURNMENT

Dir. Hammons moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:13pm. Dir. Hernandez seconded. Motion passed (8-0)

NOTICES:

1. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be Tuesday, January 21, 2024 at 6:30 pm. 2. Eagle Peak Montessori School (EPMS) is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The school does not discriminate against any person on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, gender, or disability. Michelle Hammons, Executive Director, has been designated to receive requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations in order to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in EPMS's open and public meetings. Please notify Michelle Hammons (925-946-0994) 72 hours or more prior to the disability accommodations being needed in order to participate in the meeting.

Certification of Posting

I, Michelle Hammons, Member of the EPMS Board of Directors, hereby certify that this agenda was posted by December 13, 2024 at 6:00pm.

I, Rebecca Liskin, Secretary of the EPMS Board of Directors, hereby certify that these Minutes were approved at the 1-21-2025 EPMS Board meeting.

Rebecca Liskin

Secretary EPMS Board of Directors