



Association for Montessori Meeting Minutes

Date | Sep 17, 2019 | 7:05PM

Location McKinney

Meeting called to order by Jacqueline Ip

In Attendance

Jacqueline Ip- McKinney (Chair, McKinney parent), Rika Motohashi (Co-Chair, Steves parent), Daphne Yen (Treasurer, Steves parent), Aliaa Elkhashab (Secretary, Steves parent), Lydia Liu (Steves Fundraising Committee), Winnie Ng (Steves Fundraising Committee), Justine Ross (Steves RAM-PAC Liaison), Christine Wong (Garden City parent), Joanne Chang (Garden City parent), Iris lee (Garden City parent), Daniel Shen (McKinney parent), Jen Plattner (McKinney parent), Genalyne Ang (Garden City parent), Fiona Yuen (Steves parent), David Chu (McKinney parent), Kaman Lao (Garden City parent), Joyce Yuen (McKinney parent), Nixon Hui (Garden City parent).

School Administrators

Ms. S. Roy - Principal, James McKinney Elementary School

Mr. M. Ward - Vice Principal, James McKinney Elementary School

Welcome and Round Table Introductions

Principal's Report

McKinney Elementary Principal attended on behalf of the 3 Montessori schools

- Successful beginning for the new school year; students settling in and new staff hired.
- Still waiting for the new Montessori materials to be delivered to schools.

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

AGM meeting minutes circulated and approved.

Adoption of Agenda

Agenda circulated and accepted.



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RAM Reports

Chair Report

- Steves Montessori students successfully settled at Grauer, a 2 years temporary relocation due to Steves seismic upgrade.
- Overview of the RAM funding model
 - Historically, all Montessori materials were funded by RAM.
 - In 2014, The School Board reached out to fund each school \$4,500 annually.
 - Other primary funding includes:
 - Cash infusion (\$10,000)
 - Cash drive (Membership Fees and generous Donations \$12,000)
 - Membership Drive: An e-mail was sent out with the RAM newsletter and another hardcopy will be sent home.
 - Members who submit the Membership Drive form by Nov 8th are eligible for a chance to win \$150 Costco gift card.
- \$5,000 commitment per school to subsidize Montessori supplies and furnishings.
- Teachers' Bursary and training available to assist Montessori teachers at all levels who wish to deepen their Montessori education.
- \$500 scholarship opened to Grade 12 students who went through public Montessori program. The scholarship sponsors eligible Montessori alumni into post secondary program.
- Fundraising with Kidtropolis night out
- Parent Education Night

Treasurer Report and Budget Discussion

- Daphne circulated and reviewed financial report
- Account balances were reviewed
- This year budget was approved in 2019
- Current Bank Balance total \$23K
 - Waiting for one cheque to Garden City for last year's expense before closing books officially for the school year ended August 2019.

Open Issues and Discussions

Scholarship Program

- Application form circulated in secondary schools



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Teacher Bursary Program

- Bursary application will be made available for the admin team.

Fundraiser

- Kids Night Out is scheduled on October 4th from 6pm to 10pm for kids aged 6 to 12 years old. Compared to last year, cost has increased. Tickets available for \$22 + Eventbrite fee.
- Other fundraising ideas were discussed including: Yoga for Kids and Parents, Rock Climbing, Apex, Movie tickets, Zumba classes, Open Gym time, etc.
- Lydia, Kaman, Joanne, Winnie and Iris will explore other fundraising events and their logistics, Fundraising committee formed:
 - Is there a fundraising opportunity at Apex?
 - Can we rent the school gym for free?
 - Clip and Climb
 - Movie Tickets (Costco)

Parents Education Night

- Last year, McKinney hosted Math Night Out where Montessori teachers presented and students showcased Montessori math materials. Around 60 people attended.
- Since the Montessori pillars are Literacy, Numeracy and Culture, Rika to liaise with admin to see if they would like to rotate and showcase other areas.

Volunteers for RAM Drawers

- This year, Steves' RAM Drawers will be located in two schools; one in Steves and the other in Grauer.
- Appointed volunteers to collect from RAM Drawers:
 - Lydia – Steves
 - Iris - Garden City
 - David - McKinney

RAM Communication

- Goal: improve our communication and be more engaged with our members.
- Increase visibility through Newsletter (September issue included an introduction about RAM and that it is parents led).
- Brainstorming Ideas on how to become more visible (Movie night, sending reminder on Kids Night Out, Facebook), not to interfere with school specific events.
- Jacqueline to check whether Mabel's Labels website is still active or not.



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A call for nominations to fill the following RAM positions still open:

- Garden City RAM-PAC Liaison
- McKinney RAM-PAC Liaison

Upcoming RAM Meeting

Nov 19th 2019, 7pm at Garden city

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:16PM and was passed unanimously.