



Richmond Association for Montessori Meeting Minutes

Date | time October 4, 2018 | 6:06PM
Location Garden City Elementary School
Meeting called to order by Danny Yee

In Attendance

Danny Yee (Co-Chair), Rachelle Barretto (Secretary), Kanny Chow (Treasurer), Jacqueline Ip (Co-Chair and Social Media), Diana Chau (Garden City parent), Addison Huang (Garden City parent), Trisha Asuncion (Garden City parent), Efren Asuncion (Garden City parent), Joel Angustia (Garden City parent), and Janet Angustia (Garden City parent).

School Administrator

Ms. Lesa Schulz, Principal, Garden City Elementary School

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes from May 31, 2018 Annual General Meeting. Moved by Danny Yee, seconded by Jacqueline Ip, motion carried.

Welcome and Introductions

The board, administrators, and guests introduced themselves.

Principal's Report

Principal Lesa Schulz presented her report on behalf of the Administrators

- Introducing Montessori primer for people to better educate parents
- Looking into what sort of professional development for Montessori teachers are available
- No TOC this year
- Garden City has an additional division in Montessori, three total including Neighbourhood
- Online E-portfolios in a class in Garden City – Richmond is a pilot for this program
- Not guaranteed catchment school anymore – they try to place you at the best
- Also no guarantee to put siblings together
- Registration for other programs this year is online (but interviews still online)
- New admin at Steves - Gordon Fitt (Principal) and Mika Livingston (Vice Principal)

Treasurer Report

- Refer to financial handout provided at meeting
- McKinney and Garden City received wobble stools, while Steves opted out
- 2017-2018 have not yet been finalised due to rolled over expenses (wobble stools, \$5k per school spending and Montessori Coaches Training)
- Financials not yet approved due to above
- Tabled until next meeting

Open Issues and New Business

Kanny Chow has submitted resignation as Treasurer for RAM, however, willing to continue helping out.

A call for nominations resulted in the following executives nominated and elected for the 2018-2019 school year:

- Treasurer: Rachelle Barretto
- Secretary: Kushal Samy

Current RAM executives:

- Co-Chair: Danny Yee
- Co-Chair: Jacqueline Ip
- Treasurer: Rachelle Barretto
- Secretary: Kushal Samy
- Social Media: Jacqueline Ip
- Webmaster: Faye Huang
- Steves Fundraising Committee: Rika Motohashi
- Steves PAC Liaison: Justine Ross

The following positions are not filled and open:

- Garden City Fundraising Committee
- McKinney Fundraising Committee
- Garden City PAC Liaison
- McKinney PAC Liaison

Membership cash drive forms to be sent home and returned for early bird draw by Nov 15, 2018.

Lesla Schulz suggested to have a committee that would set guidelines for \$5k budget Montessori spending (outside of District funded Montessori budget).

- Need volunteers for this committee
- Form to be developed for approval of Montessori materials (form proposed to be filled by teachers and reviewed / signed off by Admin):

- What is being requested?
- What is the cost?
- How would this benefit your Montessori classroom? How does this relate to Montessori?
- Tabled until next meeting

Kushal Samy noted that 2019 is the first year where Richmond Montessori students are graduating from Grade 12.

- Danny to ask school board (Lynn Archer) regarding guidelines with scholarship applications
 - Also check with McKinney PAC which has a scholarship for Steveston London graduates
- Only for students who have been accepted to a post-secondary institution
- Need to verify that student had attended Montessori at Steves/McKinney/Garden City
- What amount should be given to each successful applicant? How many scholarships to be given every year?
- Tabled until next meeting

It had been suggested that council create Montessori promotional material or guide for parents who are thinking of sending their child to Montessori (Feb 2018 RAM Meeting). Susan Roy had suggested that for this type of material, RAM should coordinate with School District.

- Lesa Schulz is working on updating one with the rest of the Montessori administrators

Jacqueline Ip suggested a Montessori Math Night as additional strategy to reach out to new and existing Montessori parents.

- Three key themes: Math, Culture, Science
- Math received most interest to relaunch an annual info session
- Possible Math night to be coordinated for April 2019, McKinney to host with help from all 3 schools
- Tabled for further discussions until next meeting

Jacqueline Ip showcased an example of Junior Great Books reading sets that McKinney and Garden City use (May 2018 RAM Meeting)

- Schools are encouraged to use their allocated funding for additional Montessori materials to purchase these reading sets

Rika Motohashi will look into Vancouver Art Gallery Montessori-gearred workshops/field trip for next year (May 2018 RAM Meeting)

- Tabled until next meeting

It was discussed if we could provide the schools with Montessori catalogues so they can create a wishlist (February 2018 RAM Meeting)

- This is not required since most things are online

April Tanzler had suggested that the RAM Executive needs to look at revising the mandate of RAM given the new changes over the last few years (October 2017 RAM Meeting)

- Tabled until next meeting

Deadline to transition RAM to the new Societies Act on November 2018

- Tabled until next meeting or RAM executives may meet prior

Next Meetings

Nov 29, 2018 at 7:00PM - Steves

Feb 7, 2019 at 7:00PM - McKinney

Apr 11, 2019 at 7:00PM - Garden City

Jun 6, 2019 at 7:00PM - Steves (AGM)

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:45PM and was passed unanimously.