



Association for Montessori Meeting Minutes

*Date | November 16 | 7:04PM
Location Zoom- McKinney Elementary
Meeting called to order by Jacqueline Ip*

In Attendance

Jacqueline Ip (Chair, McKinney parent), Daphne Yen (Treasurer, Steves parent), Aliaa Elkhashab (Secretary, Steves parent), Sonja Starke (Webmaster/ Garden City RAM-PAC Liason, Garden City parent), Ivy Ho (McKinney RAM-PAC Liaison, McKinney parent) Lisa Galbraith (Steves RAM-PAC Liaison, Steves parent), and Ping Zhang (Garden City, parent).

School Administrators

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

Welcome and chair introduces RAM members

Principal's Report

Ms. Roy attended on behalf of 3 Montessori Schools and reported the following:

- The Schools received the District fund for the Montessori program.
- The 3 Schools administrators met on a Zoom meeting to catchup and discuss some additional training and Pro-D Day for Montessori teachers. Additional discussion included information/ Montessori content that will be shared on the District website. We are hoping to make it more informed and detailed than what is currently posted on the district website. Kindergarten registration has already started and parents may need more information. Administrators are meeting again in December.

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Last meeting's minutes will be circulated next meeting for approval.

Adoption of Agenda

Agenda circulated through Zoom chat and accepted.



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RAM Reports

Chair Report

- Quick Intro and Housekeeping items.

Treasurer Report and Budget Discussion

- Daphne reviewed financial reports.
- Total operating Income: \$10k.
- Balance Sheet Total Assets \$50K.

Jacqueline:

- Due to COVID our budget was on the conservative side compared to previous years. Previously, for membership and donations we were looking between 12k to 15K.
- To ensure RAM sustainability, we have had to adjust RAM funds from \$5,000 to \$3,000 per school for the current school year.

Open Issues and New Business

Communication Channels

- RAM has a twitter account now 'RMD_Montessori'. Please follow us if you are on Twitter!
- On RAM website, there is a section for fundraising campaigns as well as section for teachers to get their bursary forms (Teacher Resources).
- RAM has a WeChat group. The QR Code expires in 7days so please contact us to send you the new QR Code.
- We are hoping to get more exposure by using various social media platforms.
- RAM Newsletter has teachers corner section; If there are any resources, inspiring quotes and/or interesting things that is happening please send it to us to include it in the newsletter.

Immediate Call for Volunteers

- We need people to volunteer for the two positions:
 - Chair
 - Treasurer
- Let us know if you are interested in shadowing this year, so we are able to transition by the end of next year (2022). Included in the latest newsletter, a job description of the various roles.



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Membership and Donation

- 64 families contributed to the membership as well as additional donations. Half of the money received was through email transfer and the other half was through credit card payments on EventBrite. We thank all families for the membership and donations!
- Live Draw:
 - The winning family eligible for \$50 Gift Certificate is M Zolfaghari Div 9 – McKinney Elementary. Congratulations!

Parent Education Night

- Planning to have parent education night over Zoom during spring time.
- Tentative topic: Educate and inform parents about the Principles of Montessori including the ideal classroom setup for children, the Montessori environment, how are we different from neighbourhood, how to prepare your child to be successful in the Montessori program, etc.
- Zoom setting/ format is still undecided whether it's a presentation by one or more teacher(s) or a webinar format in which we have breakup rooms of 6-10 parents with an executive member in each room to ensure open discussion and engagement.
- Mrs. Roy to discuss and plan with other Schools' administrators and teachers on the Zoom format and willing presenters.

Fundraising Review

- Beard Papa and mask campaign were both huge success. Currently we are sold out of adult masks and only 40 kids masks (boxes) left.
- Mabel's Labels is another ongoing fundraising opportunity. 20% of the return goes to RAM. Make sure to click sponsor a group and search for "Richmond Montessori". It would be greatly beneficial if you can share it with your network. [Mabel's Labels](#). This is an ongoing fundraiser.
- FlipGive is a click through website or App. It works for both directly purchased merchandise or gift cards. Its an ongoing campaign. Join our team on [FlipGive](#)! Or download the app and enter code: YQDJ7F. This is an ongoing fundraiser.
- TruEarth laundry strips and accessories where RAM gets 20% of sales. Free shipping



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Bursaries

- No Bursary applications received.
- Teachers can download the updated version of Bursaries on RAM website.

Next Meeting

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:05PM and was passed unanimously.