

Countryside Montessori Charter School
Board of Directors Agenda
February 17, 2015

Call to Order

Roll Call

Public Comments

- None Scheduled

Approval of Minutes from the January 20, 2015 meeting.

Review/Approve Financials (includes regular comparisons to actual budget).

Old Business

1. Apple IPAD Finance Terms.
2. Lease Agreement with Mr. and Mrs. Melt Godwin.
3. Committee Updates.
4. Middle School (Secondary) Updates.
5. Teacher Retention.

New Business

1. School Recognition
2. IRA Plan
3. Title II Funds

Off Agenda Items

Discipline Matters

Adjournment

Meeting Minutes of the 02/17/2015 Meeting
Countryside Montessori Charter School Board of Directors
Countryside Montessori Charter School, Inc., a Florida Not for Profit Corporation

A scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Countryside Montessori Charter School, Inc. (CMCS) was held at the school in Land O' Lakes, Florida on Tuesday, February 17, 2015.

Call to Order:

The Directors of the CMCS Board of Directors joined the staff meeting. Director Monica Santana who declared that a quorum was present and that the meeting was open for business called the meeting to order at the end of the staff meeting at 1536 hours.

Roll Call:

In attendance: Directors Monica Santana, Michelle Ferraro, Alice Godwin and Niketa Patel. Also in attendance were Mary Rivers, Karen Mantei, Dr. Mike Rom, Lori Spurr, and Julie Toth.

Public Comment:

- None Scheduled

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the 01/20/2015 meeting were reviewed. Director Monica Santana motioned for approval. Director Alice Godwin seconded the motion. A unanimous vote of 4/0 was entered and **APPROVED** by a signature of a majority of Directors.

Approval of Financials:

Financials from January (including regular comparisons to actual budget) were reviewed. Director Michelle Ferraro motioned for approval. Director Niketa Patel seconded the motion. A unanimous vote of 4/0 was entered and **APPROVED** by a signature of a majority of Directors.

Old Business:

1. Apple iPad Terms = \$130,928.04 (with interest of 5.9087%) / \$3636.89 per month for 36 months (\$119710.95). Director Michelle Ferraro motioned for approval. Director Niketa Patel seconded the motion. A unanimous vote of 4/0 was entered and **APPROVED** by a signature of a majority of Directors.
2. Lease agreement between CMCS and Mr. and Mrs. Melt Godwin is in process.
3. Committee updates: raffle / wall fundraiser = \$64,000.00, and the annual auction is scheduled for 04/11/2015. Technology committee = IPADS. Recruitment committee: 81 1st graders entered in lottery.
4. Middle School (Secondary) updates:
 - a. The secondary classroom supports a research-based, abstract, peer tutoring group dynamic approach to learning. Montessori materials are made available if needed.
5. Teacher retention efforts are continuous and the Board will stay abreast of and regularly review measures to retain current teachers and staff and recruit / hire qualified teachers and staff when necessary.
 - a. Pay scale for SY 2015 / 2016 will match current Pasco County District rates.

New Business:

1. School recognition funds were reviewed. Director Michelle Ferraro motioned for approval. Director Alice Godwin seconded the motion. A unanimous vote of 4/0 was entered and **APPROVED** by a signature of a majority of Directors to the following:
 - a. Bonuses for teachers and staff employed by CMCS for SY 2013 / 2014 and 2014 / 2015.
 - b. School supplies.
2. IRA Plan: Wells Fargo currently oversees the IRA plan. As of 01/01/2016, that will change to the Southeast 401K plan.
3. Title II Funds: CMCS elects to participate in the Pasco County Title II training programs. Director Michelle Ferraro motioned for approval. Director Niketa Patel seconded the motion. A unanimous vote of 4/0 was entered and **APPROVED** by a signature of a majority of Directors.

Meeting Minutes, 02/17/2015, (Cont.)

Off Agenda:

1. The Board was presented with the School Improvement Plan for SY 2014 / 2015 (attached). Director Niketa Patel motioned for approval. Director Monica Santana seconded the motion. A unanimous vote of 4/0 was entered and **APPROVED** by a signature of a majority of Directors.
2. The Board was presented with and reviewed several items. Director Michelle Ferraro motioned for approval on all items listed below. Director Alice Godwin seconded the motion. A unanimous vote of 4/0 was entered and **APPROVED** by a signature of a majority of Directors. (All items listed below are listed in the Handbook and therefore approved).
 - a. Student Progression Plan
 - b. Communication Policy
 - c. Expressed Concern Policy
 - d. Fee Schedule

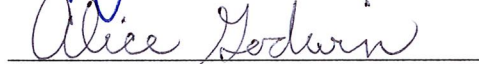
Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 1730 by Director Michelle Ferraro at the close of business. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 04/21/2015 at 3:30.

Approved this day, April 21, 2015.



Monica Santana



Alice Godwin



Michelle Ferraro

Niketa Patel

2014-2015 Florida School Improvement Plan

School Name: Countryside Montessori Charter School
District Name: Pasco
Principal: Michael Rom
Superintendent: Kurt Browning

School Profile

Countryside Montessori Charter School (CMCS) is a Pasco county public charter school located in Land O' Lakes, Florida. The school was founded in 2002 and renewed its charter in 2012 for 15 years. CMCS is dedicated to teaching children using Montessori methods, techniques, and philosophies. Our teaching focuses on each individual child. Children learn at a self-directed pace with guidance from their teachers. Teachers are mentors and guides who awaken all of the child's senses using Montessori methods and materials.

School Demographics

Our school educates student in first through sixth grades in the following multi-age classrooms: 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th, 5th, 6th & 7th, 8th. CMCS has 270 students enrolled for the 2014-2015 school year. Our student demographics are 43% male and 57% female. Regarding ethnicity, 65% of our students are White, 20% are Hispanic, 4% are Asian, 6% are Black, 4% are Other. 65% of CMCS students pay for their lunches, while 4% are offered reduced lunch and 30% are offered free lunch.

School Performance

Countryside Montessori was awarded an "A" grade from the Florida Department of Education. CMCS has also been awarded a High Performing Charter School status by the Florida Department of Education. Our students have also demonstrated a high level of proficiency in meeting district standards in all areas (Reading-82%, Writing-91%, Math-81%, and Science-97%).

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement is a key to the success of Countryside Montessori. All families are required to complete 15 volunteer hours per school year. Many of our families exceed this requirement. We have a very active Parent-Teacher Connection (PTC) with good attendance at PTC meetings and events. This year, we have instituted a full-time staff member to act as our Volunteer and Fundraising Director. This staff member coordinates, plans, and executes volunteer and fundraising initiatives between the staff, teachers, and parents at CMCS.

Staff Information

CMCS has 25 instructional staff members. Each classroom has two teachers, one being a teacher with Montessori certification. There is also a Florida state certified teacher in each class. In eight of our ten classrooms, the Montessori certified teacher is also the Florida state certified teacher. CMCS employs four Special Area teachers in the areas of Art, Music, Physical Education, and Spanish. The majority of CMCS's teachers are Highly Qualified. There are a few teachers who do not meet the standards for Highly Qualified, though they are working on completing their paperwork. CMCS also employs a Speech-Language Pathologist who is dually certified in Speech-Language Impaired and Exceptional Student Education. That person also fills the role of the Assistant School Director and oversees Student Services, including English Language Learners, Progress Monitoring Plans, Exceptional Student Education, 504 Plans, and assessment, including FCAT and SAT-10 testing. CMCS also has four office staff members and a School Principal, who has various certifications and a Ph.D. in Education.

All teachers continue to receive yearly professional development in the areas of curriculum and Montessori theory and philosophy. It is the school's goal for all CMCS teachers to receive Continuing Education credits as applicable to maintain their Highly Qualified status.

Curriculum

Regarding curriculum, CMCS utilizes a Montessori-based design. In Language Arts, the curriculum is supplemented with the ReadyGEN Program (Pearson), Shared Inquiry (Great Books), and the Collins Writing Program. In Mathematics, CMCS utilizes Go Math! Common Core (Houghton Mifflin) materials as supplements.

2014-2015
COUNTRYSIDE MONTESSORI
CHARTER SCHOOL
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
SHARED GOALS

1. Achieve at least 70% of all 3rd – 7th graders score of a passing score on Florida Standards Assessment for English Language Arts for the 2014-2015 school year.
2. Achieve at least 70% of all 3rd – 7th graders score of a passing score on Florida Standards Assessment for Mathematics for the 2014-2015 school year.
3. Maintain at least 60% of 5th graders scoring at a Level 3 or above on the FCAT Science 2.0 Test for the 2014-2015 school year. (60% in 2013-2014)
4. Achieve at least 60% of 8th graders scoring at a Level 3 or above on the FCAT Science 2.0 Test for the 2014-2015 school year. (50% in 2013-2014)
5. Maintain an overall percentile rank on Reading SAT of 75% or higher for 2nd graders in the 2012-2013 school year. (77% in 2013-2014)