



**Sussex Montessori School  
Board of Directors  
March 18, 2025, 6:30 p.m.**

**Board of Directors Present:** Linda Zankowsky, Jessica Bradley, Trish Hermance, Mason Falligant, Penny Short, Bob Wheatley, Taquil Foster-Lewis & Sean Steward

Absent: Kyle Morgan

**Others Present:** Lisa Coldiron (Head of School), Precious Benson (Director of Operations) Debra Smullin (Administrative Assistant)

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda-**

A Motion to approve the agenda was made by Jessica Bradley and seconded by Linda Zankowsky. The Motion was approved unanimously with no objections and no abstentions.

**Public Comment** – No public comment

**Consent Agenda-**

***Minutes***

A Motion to move the approval of the February 21, 2025 minutes, to the April 2025 Board meeting was made by Sean Steward and seconded by Jessica Bradley. The Motion was approved unanimously with no objections.

## **Committee Reports-**

### ***Community Engagement/Enrollment- Jessica Bradley***

Jessica reviewed the applications and retention for the 25/26 SY. She also discussed the continued marketing and staff involvement.

- Taquil is composing a Student Survey to provide touch point and Student feedback on their success.
- Community Event- Bunny Hop 5K
  - Runners
  - Sponsors
  - Celebrate Lisa

### ***Financials – Precious Benson***

Precious presented the financials to date through February 28, 2025

- February 28, 2025, represents (8/12) months actual or 66.67% of the current fiscal year.
- We have received 101.9% of our State and Local revenues.
- We have received 64.5% of our federal revenues.
- We have spent 66.2% of our Total operating budget.

A Motion to accept the February 28, 2025, financial report was made by Sean Steward and seconded by Jessica Bradley. The Motion passed unanimously with no objections and no abstentions.

### ***Development- Linda Zankowsky***

Linda stated that she is working with Horizon to complete the grant for Congressional Funds in the amount of \$500,000. The grant would be used to complete the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the barn.

### ***Facilities Committee- Bob Wheatley***

Bob discussed items reviewed at the Facilities Committee meeting on February 19, 2025.

- Barn: Phase B available funds are \$849,000.00, which will get us to the final and elevator. Approximately \$ 450,000.00 to completely finish the Barn Project
- Carriage House: Discussing a lean-to on north side for storage. Will be reviewing the Nurse's Station at the next meeting
- Ongoing Maintenance: Bid or storage building received, Considering the purchases of lawn equipment, Blinking light at Stein Highway entrance is under consideration
- Entrance Sign: Bob is working with Impact Graphics to initiate proposal for front sign

### ***Executive Committee-***

A Motion to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar was made by Jessica Bradley and seconded by Penny Short. The Motion passed unanimously with no objections and no abstentions.

### ***HOS Report- Lisa Coldiron***

Lisa reviewed the School Choice Applications for SY 2025/2026

KN: 49

01: 15

02: 11

03: 14

04: 6

05: 6

06: 5

Total: 106 (Confirmed acceptances: 38)

Lisa also reviewed Staffing for SY 25/26, Smarter Balance and State test scores, and School updates, including:

- Read-a-thon fundraiser- raised over \$8000
- Bunny Hop- Saturday, April 19th

- Flag Football and Cheerleading- Over 60 students participating
- Upper El Middle School Night- 6<sup>th</sup> grade families- decision making for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Alumni Visit- 3 former SMS students came to visit for the day

### ***Executive Session-***

A motion to enter Executive Session was made by Jessica Bradley and was seconded by Sean Steward. The Motion passes unanimously with no objections and no abstentions. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:53 p.m. and ended at 8:20p.m.

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sean Steward and seconded by Jessica Bradley. The Motion passed unanimously at 8:21p.m.