

Birch Lane Montessori Parent Advisory Committee (MPAC)
Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2018 – 7:00 PM

In Attendance

President: Sheryl Soucy-Lubell
Vice President: Roberto Sequeira
Treasurer: Amanda McNichols
Secretary: Brian Pakpour
Historian: Leila Hartley
Principal: Jim Knight
Teachers: Remy Glovin, 2nd/3rd
Eliza Sater, 2nd/3rd Grade Teacher

7:03 – Meeting called to order by Sheryl

- 1) Welcome/Introductions
- 2) Review of Minutes – one correction
 - a. Shawna Stevens moved
 - b. Cara Baker seconded
 - c. Motion passes to approve the minutes
- 3) Principal's Report – Jim Knight
 - a. Nov. 9 is a conference day and minimum day, and Veteran's Day is that Monday.
 - b. Received donation of Montessori materials over the summer from a casino in Capay Valley – was about \$3,500-\$4,000 in materials, teachers divided them up
 - c. Teachers
 - i. District is working with Shingle Springs Montessori training center to open up satellite campus here. The idea is this will give Birch Lane great exposure to Montessori credentialed teachers in the area. The hope is that teachers could eventually get fully credentialed in one year by going only to the Birch Lane campus.
 - ii. We have applicant for long-term sub who is fully credentialed. She is also ready to volunteer.
 - iii. We have a teacher, Amanda Garza, who has recently returned to the area, she is interested in teaching here again.
 - iv. Math coaches. Now the title will be "instructional coaches." These individuals will be available to assist teachers across the district.
- 4) President's Report - Sheryl
 - a. New logo is done
 - b. T-shirt order forms are being distributed, and many orders have already been placed
 - c. Volunteer opportunities

- i. Outreach coordinator. Heather White stepped down. Need a new one. Duties include coordinating with pre-K and preschools to get the word out about the Montessori program here. Davis Farmer's Market, post on social media, Davis Parents Facebook group, etc. Late Dec. to early Feb. is the timeline these duties are typically carried out.
 - ii. Social Event Planner. Looking for volunteers to assist with one-off events, like Jamba Juice fundraisers, Davis Farmer's Market fundraisers, etc.
 - d. Montessori Master Plan – guiding document for the district, school, and the staff. Need to form committee to assist. 10-15 people. Meet 3-4 times for one hour. Will be in March or April. Looking for folks to advocate for the Montessori program at these meetings. **Belinda Whitsett** volunteered. She has a grandchild in K-1 Montessori.
 - e. Reminder that the PTA and MPAC are two complimentary organizations, not competing ones. The traditional and Montessori programs are all part of one community, and we are here to support one another.
 - i. Eliza: every student should be equally supported.
 - ii. Jim: the district is listening, and all the parents and students are supported
 - iii. Remy: All teachers have access to the Montessori materials, not just the Montessori teachers
- 5) Treasurer's Report – Amanda McNichols
 - a. Distributed Final Budget for 2017-2018
 - b. Distributed Proposed Budget for 2018-2019
 - c. Currently have approx. \$8,000.
 - d. Increasing classroom allocation from \$250 to \$300 per classroom
- 6) Teacher Reports
 - a. Remy
 - i. Study of space
 - ii. Study of Africa
 - iii. Bike riding in P.E.
 - iv. Thursday is bike ride to park, then biking to DMTC to see Chitty Chitty Bang Bang
 - b. Eliza
 - i. Team building
 - ii. Had first work plans
 - iii. Creating a quiet work plans (QWP)
 - iv. Studying states of matter, experiments with dancing raisins
 - v. Practicing bicycle riding
 - vi. Growth mindset work – working through frustration
 - vii. Everything's going well.
 - c. Debbie Beauchamp
 - i. Reading about gov't and constitution.
 - ii. Working with Montessori jobs for ELA and Math
 - iii. Made maps of CA and US using clay
 - iv. Reading "Wonder," discussing being kind to one another
 - v. Discussing the growth mindset
- 7) New Business/Open Discussions

- a. Next month we'll be hearing from School Board candidates. Will be going to get their takes on choice programs, and Montessori programs specifically
 - b. PTA fundraiser at Dos Coyotes in South Davis on 9/19/2018.
- 8) Adjournment
- a. Roberto moved to adjourn
 - b. Brian seconded
 - c. Meeting adjourned at approx. 7:45 p.m.