

The Mission of the Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center is to continuously expand the potential of children, the experiences of educators and the involvement of parents within a diverse community of Grand Rapids, The Vision of the Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center is to base all decisions on the principles of Reggio Emilia incorporating current research on learning as well as developmentally appropriate practice.

Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center

Board of Directors Meeting

Date: 6:00-7:30 pm, Monday January 8th, 2024.

Posting Address: 409 Lafayette Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Location: Grand Rapids Child Discovery Center

Publication: <http://grcdc.org/>

Agenda	Person	Time	Purpose
Opening			
1. Call to Order	Stephen	6:03	Action
2. Roll Call .1 Present: ST, AG, TL, KD, JB, PS, CMK, AS, LN .2 Absent: .3 Guests: Doug Meeks, Sarah Cooper, Sana Amash	Stephen		Action
3. Approval of Agenda 1st- AS 2nd- KD All- aye	Stephen		Action
4. Approval of Minutes 1st- AS 2nd- TL All- aye	Stephen		Action
5. Public Comment (Please limit comments to 3-5 minutes) Happy New Year		6:04	Comment
Reports from the Board			
6. President's Report Need to think about filling positions that might open on the board. Takes about 2 months from when we pick someone till we are ready to swear them in.	Stephen	6:04	Report
7. Executive Committee Report	Anne		Report
8. Finance Committee Report Waiting on numbers from the state in order to finalize budget amendment. Anticipate having these before Feb. board meeting.	Kevin		
9. Secretary's Report Courtney Myers-Keaton will do introduction and invite to board meeting on school facebook page before next meeting.	Amelia		
10. Ad Hoc Committee Reports	All	6:08	Report

.1 Marketing/Advertising- Travis

Website development is going well. Justine updated on last marketing meeting - updating flyers and other media to print and get out before the next open house. Still need to update bio information on staff for website. Hoping to launch new website soon (This month) - will send to board soon so we can look at and comment before it goes live.

.2 Strategic Planning Committee- Philip

Still anticipating timing to be compliant with initial agreement

2 upcoming breakout sessions with 2 groups (See below)

Draft to board to review soon with presentation.

Brainstorming about building out the strategic planning committee with new board members.

Still trying to engage MFB with more conversations around Cass Ave project.

.3 Reauthorization- Abby

.4 Evaluation/Leadership- Abby/Amelia

Justine - Feb 20th

Courtney - April 16th

Lisa will register them

.5 Policy - Travis

Summary of updated policies:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pWKAEM3U4r36lw_uYDVWj3ujPB6gV3NlopHfYbKj8jY/edit?usp=gmail

- Don't have to vote on new policies tonight if need more time to go over them.
- Clarified the attendance update - gives board the option to remove a board member for 3 or more absences in a 12 month period with $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of board.

.6 Board Liaison- A Team (Travis), Facilities (Kevin)

- No updates.

Reports to the Board

11. Executive Director's Report

Lisa

6:18

Report

Current Significant Issues:

- Ms. Jaclyn will be starting the new year with a space (old special Ed. room) after moving some folks around before break.
- School wide COVID outbreak before break was actually unprecedented, looking at anything we could have done more quickly to reduce spread, but generally we go above and beyond. Will likely be able to pay a small fee, if anything for the Monday

where we didn't have 75% student attendance (does not count as a day of instruction).

- Continued COVID mitigation (masks, separate lunches) through this week.
- Hired a new/old para (Ms. Chloe!) and a new special education instructional aide.
- We now have 3 paras working towards their teaching certification.
- MFB construction will not begin in April as originally planned. Changed architects on project. Earliest will break ground is late spring, early summer.

Committee Updates:

Finance- We are still waiting on the amendments to Title funds. The finance committee discussed beginning budget planning for next year earlier than we usually do (in February). We know that the strategic planning will have financial implications for the future years to come, but for next year our main priority must be to MAINTAIN what we currently have. We pay for a few positions out of ESSER funds (additional math interventionist, additional SEL interventionist, additional para) and some curriculum. ESSER funds end at the end of this year. We can show with our data that not only are these expenditures helping to address learning loss from COVID, but also that we have continued to grow even better despite going through the pandemic. Maintaining these positions and programming is the first priority and getting a good look at what that will take sooner rather than later will help us make the right choices.

Facilities- Electrical work on the server and on "exit" lighting by the stairwell was completed over break

Evaluation- Nothing new since last month- move meeting + add Doug?

Marketing and Tech- Talked through priorities for the remainder of the year

Safety committee: We articulated a communications plan for the safety report and the things that we will do coming out of that:

1. Communicate in the Link Letter
2. Provide video people can listen to or watch

Schedule a follow up meeting (in person or virtual) for people to ask questions and give feedback- with the safety committee all participating in that

Strategic Planning:

Strategic Planning-s.

Parents of Color Listening Session: Jan 17 from 7:00-8:30 PM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkdeihrT4rHNDwZ4-yZjqNcA8kaKIQ4QND#/registration>

Non-Traditional Families Listening Session: Jan 16 from 7:00-8:30 PM

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0odO6vrzsiG9N7_h-iNWIDwzNDb1qfhhVg#/registration

Families who are unable to attend are welcome to set up a time where I can speak with them one on one. Attached are the two PDFs with the hyperlinks.

Continuous Improvement Plan:

- AER Report based on our MSTEP scores from the previous year- Sarah Cooper will present
 - [AER Coverletter](#) (will be posted on website)
 - [Slide deck](#)
 - Required report by state. MSTEP data used for school index report (rate schools 0-100). Our rating is 98.5/100 based on student growth and proficiency, school quality and student success.
 - Met growth targets (ELA 57.05, Math 35.80). Got an A grade in this ELA 78.31%, Math 62.65%
 - Met proficiency - are students at grade level? Also got an A.
 - Student subgroups performance - “significantly above average” only large subgroup at our school is economically disadvantaged (those who would qualify for free and reduced lunch)
 - Comparison to peer schools (similar in

size and demographics) throughout the state - B grade.

- School Quality and student success index (attendance, access to Art/PE, Librarian or Media Specialist?) - 91.56
- Assessment participation - 100% participation (Goal is 95%)
- Support Category - universal support (met all categories, did not qualify for any special help)
- Test Data graph from M-STEP results - see in slide deck. Much higher than other Kent County schools or state schools in proficiency in ELA. Also leading in math but not as much higher than other county/state schools.
- US News and World Report ratings came out again recently - 12th charter elementary school in the state. 2nd in the City. 3rd in the county. (very opaque ratings system).
- We have continued to grow year over year despite coming out of COVID "bucking the trend".
- Philip - how can we thank the staff as a board for all their hard work?
- Sana - should be in person.
- Post a congratulations and the ratings in the Link Letter? Post on Facebook?

- Next month, we will share the mid-year Reading, Math and SEL data

12.	Family Team Report (Quarterly)		Report
Business			
13.	Old Business (previously moved) .1 N/A	6:51	Action
14.	New Business .1 Final Vote to appoint Douglas Meeks to the board Appreciate he went through all the interviews and continued coming to meetings when not initially selected. Motion to vote on Doug Meeks as a board member:: 1st- PS 2nd- JB Vote to elect Doug Meeks to the board:		Action

CMK - yes
 AS - yes
 PS - yes
 ST - yes
 AG - yes
 KD - yes
 TL - yes
 JB - yes

Doug Meeks recited Oath of Office:

.2 Election of New VP
 Abby nominated TL
 Travis - happy to do that for the rest of this term.
 Motion to vote on Travis as VP through the end of
 2023-2024 term. 1st AS 2nd: JB

CMK - yes
 AS - yes
 PS - yes
 ST - yes
 AG - yes
 KD - yes
 TL - yes
 JB - yes

.3. Policy Updates Winter 2024
 Motion to vote on all new policies in a block
 1st - AS 2nd - KD All - aye
 Motion to vote to approve policy updates:
 1st - TL 2nd - JB all - aye.

Closing			
15.	Public Comment (Please limit comments to 3-5 minutes)		Comment
16.	Adjourn	Abby	6:57 Action

School Leadership:

Executive Director- Lisa Nuyens LN
 Pedagogista- Sarah Cooper- SC

GRPS Liaison:

Matthew Beresford

GRCDC Board Members:

Executive Committee-

President- Stephen Tanner - ST
 Vice President- Travis LaFluer - TL
 Treasurer- Kevin Davis- KD
 Secretary- Amelia Grayson- AG

Members at Large:

Abby Sutter - AS
 Justine Burdette- JB
 Courtney Myers-Keaton- CMK
 Philip Strom - PS