

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, December 12, 2022

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	Abby	6:02	Action
2. Roll Call .1 Present: AJ, AS, AG, AF, TL, PS, ST, KD, Lisa N. .2 Absent: .3 Guests: Sana Amash, Jason (parent 5th grader), 4 other parents, Tessa from Hungorford Nickles CPA.	Abby		Action
3. Approval of Agenda 1st- AF 2nd- AJ All- yes	Abby		Action
4. Approval of Minutes 1st- ST 2nd- AF All- yes	Abby		Action
5. Public Comment (Please limit comments to 3-5 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parent of a 5th grader - son not doing well. Used to love school does not anymore. Feels this is teacher related. One issue specifically did not get communicated to them well. Abby sent them an email about how to do a written formal request. - Mom of same student also talked - feels they cannot trust the school and leaders anymore based on issues they have had with this teacher and the response. Feels concerns are being dismissed. States they feel as though they were "given an ultimatum to stop expressing concerns or to have her son leave the school" wants to have "further eyes on this issue" from the board. Also fearing how other 2 children who attend GRCDC will be treated. - Parent of another child in the same class started talking but got choked up and said she would talk later. 		6:05	Comment
Reports from the Board			
6. Budget amendment- Kevin and Tess <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There was an error in the proposed budget that looked like we owed the state money. This was wrong. 			

<p>When we budgeted for the current year it was based on the prior year (usually pretty accurate). This was based on 2 FTE special ed teachers, only had 1 FTE this year. Was planning on certain amount of revenue from "Act 18" and that was decreased due to this error. The amount held back may end up being less than they held back so far. Overall less expenses means less reimbursement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One expense line got missed in the budget proposal this year - teacher retirement fund (\$164,000) this is a significant amount. Fund balance for school still very significant. Hungerford Nichols reduced their monthly fee to offset this cost. Increasing team working for our school. - Overall hoping that with announcement of what per pupil funding will be this year - amount will help offset this. - Lisa stated that due to fund balance being high, we are still planning on going forward with full time music teacher and fixing boiler. - Other than these, other budget items are close to what we budgeted for in June. 	
<p>6. President's Report Doing well with keeping up with meetings and notes for sub-committees Abby sent e-mail with parents interested in being on sub-committees.</p>	<p>Abby 6:25 Report</p>
<p>7. Executive Committee Report - Nothing today.</p>	<p>Anne Report</p>
<p>8. Finance Committee Report - Already did budget amendment updates.</p>	<p>Kevin</p>
<p>9. Secretary's Report -Philip will post on Facebook and invite people to the meeting in January 2023</p>	<p>Amelia</p>
<p>10. Ad Hoc Committee Reports .1 Marketing/Advertising- Travis - Working on plan for website, question about how to make sure monthly fee accounted for in budget. Also will be upfront costs. Travis will send summary of what they need to Lisa and Kevin. .2 Strategic Planning Committee- Amber - Met on 21st of Nov. RFP (request for proposals) released on 28th of Nov. asking for submissions by Jan 6th and will be interviewing people to interview for a consultant with strategic planning process.</p>	<p>All 6:34 Report</p>

- Could we also post in the link letter that we are engaging in this process and maybe link to RFP.
 - Lisa will send RFP to the whole board
 - Feel free to pass to people who may be interested.
- .3 Reauthorization- Abby
- Not much movement this month.
 - Sarah and Lisa getting documents together
 - Want to have it together by February.
- .4 Evaluation/Leadership- Amelia
- Have not met since last meeting
 - Plan to meet after the break
 - Will be sending out factors in each domain starting prior to February meeting then each month until June.
- .5 Policy- Travis
- One is required.
- .6 Board Liaison- A Team (Travis), Facilities (Kevin)

Reports to the Board

11.	Executive Director's Report Current Significant Updates or Issues	Lisa	6:51	Report
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hired additional para to sub for Ms. Mandy and Ms. Abby while she subs for Ms. Benson while Ms. Benson is out on maternity leave - hopefully will then stay on after - Re-posted for special education aide- no luck on this yet. Would work with individual students throughout the day - not be assigned to a single classroom Can pay with ESSER funds. Allow general education paras to focus on other students in the class. - Posted for a third academic interventionist. Meant to be a temporary position for next year to work with kids with COVID learning loss in Math and Reading. Requires teacher certification. Looking for a reading specialist. - Call on Wednesday with Maggie Malone of GRPS to explore the possibility of a "timeshare" music educator and also about music curriculum for this age group as we do not have a music curriculum yet. Still hoping to post for this position this year. - Amber asked about how this will dovetail with the Reggio approach. 			

- Tier 1 Adult SEL- focus of the A Team. 1st event tomorrow. Family team partnering for funding part of it.
- RFP (strategic planning facilitation) was released 11/28 and due 1/6/22. Got some positive feedback about the RFP.
- 54 Kinder apps and 7 for other grades for next school year already. 1 more expo and open house. We have a lot of siblings coming in to the kindergarten class next year.

2. Update on Strategic Plan Implementation

Curriculum-

In the middle of completing Winter Benchmarks. Will have a fall/winter comparison and action steps for presentation after the new year.

Anecdotally, teachers are giving a strong endorsement of our new reading curriculum, as well as the increased focus on teaching phonemic awareness and phonics.

- Large group of 2nd grade students in Tier 2, big change from fall to winter with these kids.
- Ms. Tanya getting training from state of Michigan - strategies for teaching reading to kids with learning disabilities such as dyslexia. Ms. Danielle also signing up for this. Grant funded.

Culture:

Also in a benchmarking period for SEL support- will have a fresh data set soon and our SEL interventionists will have new/adjusted caseloads when we return.

Note: the time for professional learning on Jan 3 will be spent planning as a teaching staff, leadership, and interventionists for academic and SEL TIER II and TIER III goals and plans for the 2nd cycle (we have 3 intervention cycles throughout the year, with SEL and academics mirror each other in process). Jan 17th PD focused on Opportunity Thrive for adult SEL and math instruction.

SAFETY AND SECURITY:

- Doors for mid February

3. Direct Action Updates:

- No additional at this time

4. Facilities Update

- Boiler is going to be done in phases- with some of the work beginning as soon as

5. Finance Updates-

None for this report outside of the amendment discussion tonight

12.	Family Team Report (Quarterly)		Report
Business			
13.	Old Business (previously moved) .1 N/A	7:07	Action
14.	New Business .1 Budget Amendment Vote 1st- AG 2nd- AJ All- yes .2 Policy updates - will move to January as just received today and have questions on one of them. 1st- 2nd- All-		Action
Closing			
15.	Public Comment (Please limit comments to 3-5 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Parent states she is speaking on behalf of a group of parents in the class who are Looking at formal complaints against the teacher as they believe things are happening in her classroom that are causing mental issues for some kids in the class. Sees mental and emotional regression happening with her child. Believes students are "at a breaking point". Really wants her kids to be at GRCDC but feels needs are not being addressed.- Another parent feeling brushed off about academic concerns with her child. Feels her son getting singled out rather than getting help. This is messing with his confidence. Feels he is making himself sick. Also feels may need to exit GRCDC. Worried about her child doing well in sixth grade.- All parents saying they overall like the school and want to make it work for their kids here.		Comment
16.	Adjourn	Abby	7:23 Action

17. Voted on adjourning to a closed session of board to talk about the issues going on in Ms. Moushey's class that parents publicly commented on tonight
Session started at 7:30pm. Ended session at 8:00pm.

7:24

School Leadership:

Executive Director- Lisa Nuyens Heyne-

LNH

Pedagogista- Sarah Cooper- SC

GRPS Liaison:

Matthew Beresford

GRCDC Board Members:

Executive Committee-

President- Abby Sutter- AS

Vice President- Anne Jbara- AJ

Treasurer- Kevin Davis- KD

Secretary- Amelia Grayson- AG

Members at Large:

Stephen Tanner- ST