



Drafted on: *Wednesday, December 12, 2018*

## **PAC Meeting Minutes - December 10, 2018**

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### **Event Review - Grandparent's Day**

- Communication for the event was conflicting with regards to the times. Times should have been established earlier to allow clear understanding.
- Upper EI leading groups was great, but feedback that the initial process was disorganized and could probably be improved.
- Need a way to accommodate Grandparents/guests with multiple children in different classrooms.
- Suggested having 10-15 demo lessons to choose from for the students.
- Consideration that the school should see the messaging for Grandparents Day as very different from the Lesson Demo day. Lesson Demo day are to parents that while may not be as familiar with some details of the Montessori method, they are supportive enough of it to have selected it for their children to attend. Grandparents may be more skeptical, or certainly less familiar than the parents. Accordingly, a little more basic explanation of the overall curriculum and teaching/learning methods would be appropriate.

### **Future Event / Calendar Review**

#### **Original Works (Pri B)**

- Items will be delivered this week.

#### **Talent Show (cancelled)**

- PAC members agreed that having some of the talent show performers demonstrate their talent at the end of Montessori Week as the best option (over the bridging ceremony). Will bring to John for consideration.

### **Campus Crawl (Pri A)**

- Discussed preparation activities and schedule for the event.
- E-mail to be sent to parents by PAC in the next two days.

## **Other Items / Suggestions**

### **Projects -Shade Project**

- Still standing by for definitive word from Ms. Susi on where the staff wants the shade project. PAC suggested we rely on Mr. James Choice's work ethic and energy and ask him if he would "make it happen". Mike will relay that request to James.

### **Projects - Parent Workshops**

- Had a discussion about ways it could be more productive. Generally agreed that the advertising and "talking up" of the event was limited.
- One key suggestion that was widely supported in the meeting was to change the "Open House" to an "Orientation" and make it adults only. The naming conveys a more mandatory and informational event which may increase participation.
- At the open house, make it more of a sit-down with the teacher accommodating parents with children in multiple classrooms. This sit-down should be by classrooms (perhaps after a school wide orientation on policies) and cover curriculum, an introduction to Montessori, expectations, etc. Multiple parents indicated that the discussions this year seemed to assume parents understood many things. Even parents that are returning don't know everything. Takeaway - work on making the discussions more structured to ensure it covers everything. (Parents understand that is always a work in progress).

### **Projects - Movie Night in the Little Theater?**

- A suggestion to have a school event at the Little Theater. PAC had a discussion about legality of what we can show, but made no decision on future actions on this. PAC had limited appetite to start planning new events as this meeting was held in the middle of the holiday season :).

### **Adopt a Family**

- A suggestion was made that next year, we consider and plan ahead to "adopt a family" with needs in the local community.

## **Communications / Proposals**

### **Calendar**

- Request that the school annotate all planned weather makeup days on the calendar at the beginning of the school year, as most schools do.

### **Lottery for school admission**

- Previously, the PAC communicated that current parents would have 10 days to return the forms.
- Recently the forms have been distributed with a due date of Mar 4. Previous discussion about a 10 day timeline was in err! Returning students need to have the forms returned by Mar 4, but there is no need to delay. PAC recommends returning the forms soonest to ensure you do not forget!

NEXT PAC MEETING: Monday, Jan 14th at 6PM at Beard Hall.