



## **Parent Council Revision Meeting Minutes**

10:00 am-11:00 am July 25, 2022 at Mountain Song Community School via Zoom

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81769707247?pwd=4tGPvaMZC52vdFleWtXqqaG6\\_enc8f.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81769707247?pwd=4tGPvaMZC52vdFleWtXqqaG6_enc8f.1)

**pw:** 161727

### **Agenda**

No Votes Taken at Work Sessions.

Attendees: Brooke S., Jennifer B., Denise M., Amalie F., Ashley P.

#### **Continuing Business**

a. Develop Parent Council communications policy and procedures

10:05 Discussion of feasibility of 501c3. Amalie, Ashley, and Denise state that this will be a heavy lift and that this should be put on hold

10:13 Discussed making a parent FAQ that PC can use to inform parents. Topics could include:

Link for Board and committees (times, dates, volunteer opportunities)

Food and media policy (listing and explaining)

Evaluation procedures, requirements, etc. (Director, teachers, board, etc)

Information about teacher training (whatever the school wants to share)

Volunteer opportunities (some suggestions, who to contact)

Waldorf principles for education (maybe some why we do what we do points for some things)

Grievance policy

School expansion (do we plan to move, get another building etc)

Plans about the building

Curriculum (share what is used, or how we pick?)

School hierarchy - school and board organizational charts

Where people can go for more info (e.g., finances could point towards budget on the website, school treasurer email, finance committee information)

10:33 The document will need to be board approved. It will need to be updated routinely, also (quarterly, or each semester perhaps). Ashley's note here - perhaps we could make this a school document, so it doesn't require board approval, and therefore make updating it much easier.

10:35 PC can refer people to the document, and otherwise refer people to the appropriate people for their questions. This still needs to be nailed down, as discussed earlier in the meeting.

10:37 Jennifer said to make sure there is not TOO much info, as that overwhelms people.

10:40 An actual PC communication policy should note that PC points people towards the FAQ and/or the appropriate people for their questions but DOES NOT act as a mediator and reach out on behalf of parents

in dealing with concerns. Specifically, PC does not handle grievances. It should state that we follow the school's communication policy and link to it and grievance policy. Possibly state that aggressive communications will be returned to the sender and they can resend in a manner that follows communication and grievance policy. Ashley's note after the fact: We should REALLY emphasize here the parts of the communication policy about respectful communication. Include timelines for expected responses from people who are contacted (basically reiterating what is in the school policy).

10:44 Discussed the importance of having a town hall for an hour of public comment. Jennifer stated it is not uncommon to request that people submit questions ahead of time, so we can find info and so we know how much time to plan for the event.

10: 48 Denise noted concern about town halls turning into a venue to complain. Jennifer suggested she hoped that perhaps PC could host the townhalls so that it would be a clear collaborative effort.

10:50 Jennifer would like to get community and teacher input on new Parent Circle. Suggests come up with basic framework for August, then get admin to assist in the fall with policy and descriptions. We talked about if the slimming back of PC the Board's idea or the PCs. There seemed to be some misunderstanding of who suggested the new roles for PC. We discussed how Amalie led PC discussion about what PC still wanted to do, and I (Ashley) forwarded Amalie's list to Denise and EmmaLee. Jennifer also reviewed history of 501c3 discussion over the last 3 years or so, and how we got to where we were.

b. Discuss Next Meeting's Topics- Communications policies and procedures

**Public Comment** - The Public Comment period is an opportunity for the public to provide comments, opinions, or observations directly to Board members. It is not intended as a forum for debate or discussion and each speaker is limited to 2 minutes. Protocol prevents board members from addressing speakers or their comments during the public comment section of the meeting. The Board will hear comments and may direct action or follow up immediately or in a separate session as appropriate. Please refrain from personal attacks or the naming of any individuals. Please refrain from airing grievances as grievances require a separate protocol.