

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
EAGLE PEAK MONTESSORI SCHOOL (EPMS) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

November 12, 2024

6:30pm-9:30pm

Location: 800 Hutchinson Rd, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 PM** (Directors Brennan, Buckner, Carson, Desautel, Dietrich, Hammons, Hernandez, Mannion, and Womble)

**1. MISSION STATEMENT-** *The mission of the charter component of EPMS is to provide students with the opportunity to acquire an education based on an “authentic” and accredited curriculum founded on the educational philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. We intend to promote an educational atmosphere that encourages socioeconomic and cultural diversity by providing all students with the opportunity to obtain a quality public education. Our aim is to equip each of our students with the skills, knowledge, and values to participate meaningfully in the pluralistic world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-** *Eagle Peak Montessori School acknowledges that we currently occupy land which is Ohlone land. The Ohlone people are still here and are still active. The Ohlone people are made of several tribes. The land we are on specifically is that of The Confederated Villages of Lisjan. As they say, the land did not belong to them, they created reciprocal relationships with the plants and animals they shared this space with.*

*These words are shared from the Boston Public Schools Land Acknowledgement:*

*“We acknowledge the sacred land where we work, live, learn, teach, and build community, has been a place where people have lived for over tens of thousands of years. We recognize that invaders have repeatedly violated the sovereignty, territory, and water of the original inhabitants of the land for over 400 years. We extend our respect to the citizens of these Nations who live here today, and their ancestors and all indigenous people. We also affirm that this acknowledgment is insufficient. It does not undo the harm that has been done and continues to be perpetuated against indigenous people, their land and water. We also acknowledge they are still here.”*

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The public may address the EPMS board regarding any item within the board’s jurisdiction whether or not that item appears on the agenda.

- Speakers may have 3 minutes each for a maximum total of thirty minutes public comment.
- If more than 20 people wish to address the board, per person comment time for all speakers will be reduced to 2 min with a maximum total of one hour public comment.
- Speakers may not concede their time to another.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Dir. Hammons motioned to approve the 11/12/24 meeting agenda. Dir Buckner seconded. Motion passed unanimously (9-0)

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

Items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and will be approved/adopted by a single motion. It is expected that board members have reviewed these agenda items prior to meeting. There will be no separate discussion of these items; however, any item may be removed from the consent agenda upon the request of any member of the board and acted upon separately.

a. October 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Dir Hammons motioned to approve minutes for the September 21, 2024 Regular Board Meeting with the corrections below:

- Item 6a- change the word to Kick-Off

Dir Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion passes (7-0-2) Dir Mannion and Carson abstained.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

a. Staff Update

- Science Fair is coming up
- Two prospective parent meetings have been held

- Lower Elementary
  - Going to Lawrence Hall of Science for a field trip
  - Historical Halloween event was a success
- b. Facilities Update - no update
- c. Treasurer's Update: Reviewed Financials through October, 31, 2024 and Draft Audit Report
- d. CFEP Update
  - Donations are coming in slowly, but funds are going out quickly due to field trip costs.
  - Opened a three-month CD.
  - Read-a-thon has generated approximately \$8,000 to date.
  - Planning a walk-a-thon in the spring.
  - Upcoming "Dine and Donate" at Zachary's Pizza on 11/12/24.
- e. Other Board Communications
  - L. Desautels and Hernandez discussed nonprofit training opportunities for CFEP, including free courses from Nonprofit Ready.
  - A board application for April M. was submitted for consideration on 11/5/24.
  - Hernandez emphasized the importance of educating ourselves on MDUSD School Board members.

## 7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- a. The board will consider the matter of the Student Freedom of Speech and Expression Policy. Policy not finished; will review at future meeting. No action taken.
- b. The board will consider the matter of the EPA Funding for certified salaries. Dir Mannion moves to approve the motion that the EPA funding is spent for certified salaries and benefits. Dir Brennan seconded the motion. Motion approves unanimously (9-0)
- c. The board will consider the matter of the 2023-2024 Audit Report. Dir Hernandez moves to approve the clean audit with no findings, pending final review. Dir Brennan seconded the motion. Motion approves unanimously (9-0)
- d. The board will consider the matter of the staff celebration. Discussion regarding the staff celebration to occur after winter break. Dir Mannion moves to approve \$3,500 for staff celebration. Dir L. Desautels seconded the motion. Motion approves unanimously (7-0-2). Dir Hammons and Buckner abstained.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

Dir. Hammons moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56pm. Dir. Hernandez seconded. Motion passed (9-0)

### NOTICES:

1. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 6:30 pm.
2. Eagle Peak Montessori School (EPMS) is nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations. The school does not discriminate against any person on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, gender, or disability. Michelle Hammons, Executive Director, has been designated to receive requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations in order to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in EPMS's open and public meetings. Please notify Michelle Hammons (925-946-0994) 72 hours or more prior to the disability accommodations being needed in order to participate in the meeting.

### Certification of Posting

I, Michelle Hammons, Member of the EPMS Board of Directors, hereby certify that this agenda was posted by November 8, 2024 at 6:00pm.

I, Rebecca Liskin, Secretary of the EPMS Board of Directors, hereby certify that these Minutes were approved at the 12-17-2025 EPMS Board meeting.

*Rebecca Liskin*

Secretary EPMS Board of Directors