

Great River School
School District #4105



Scholarship, Service, Success

MISSION

Great River School is a Montessori community that prepares the whole student for a life of scholarship, service and success.

GOAL

Great River School is the public school of choice for highly motivated students.

VISION

Great River School is a place where college bound students are excited and inspired to learn. Great River School encourages students to ask complex questions and seek new and difficult challenges. Great River School combines academic and social experiences in a culture of civility and trust through peaceful practices. Great River School is a place where students feel safe to express and challenge themselves. Every student at Great River School is a valued member of the community. The exceptional Great River staff teach teamwork through cross-country travel, experiential learning, drama, the arts, and micro-economic ventures while helping students set individual academic goals.

CORE VALUES

Great River School believes in the following:

- Montessori Education
- Community, Interdependence, and Sustainability
- Civility, Grace, and Courtesy
- Diversity
- Growth through Challenge

***Education should no longer be mostly imparting of knowledge,
but must take a new path, seeking the release of human potentialities.***

Maria Montessori

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**Great River School
Board Meeting
May 17, 2007
Minutes**

Board Members Present: Kelly Rodieck, Marita Bujold, Eryn Dewey-Carter, Jim Groess, Candy Husemoller, Connie Lepro, Stuart Mason, Judy Plante, Alan Stache, Angela van der Puije, Aaron Drevlow (Ex-Officio)

Board members Absent: Tom Carrigan, Michael Flood

Community Members Present: Cory Olson, Mike Shapiro, Natalie Potts

Kelly Rodieck convened the meeting at 6:40 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions and one good thing that happened at GRS.

- Adirondack chairs are done
- Extravaganza done and successful

2. Consent Agenda

Consent agenda resolution **C07041701-4** offered by Stuart Mason, seconded by Connie Lepro, and unanimously approved.

3. Reports from Standing Committees:

A. Finance Committee

Alan reviewed financial status and activity. There were debit cards purchased for use on the senior high trip. SBS did not have the receipts verified in time for the report, but these were addressed in pages 1 and 2 of the Director's report.

Revenue to date plus amount of holdback is 88% of what is budgeted, expenses are at 80% of budgeted, and 83% of the year has passed. Fund balance may be \$15,000- 20,000 better than originally projected. Cash flow is anticipated to remain positive at the end of the year, and line of credit may not be needed until late summer.

Resolution 07051701 Review Check Register was offered by Jim Groess, seconded by Stuart Mason, and unanimously approved.

The budget draft was reviewed. The strategic plan aims at 195 students, and the budget draft used that figure as a base. Athletics line item recognized salaries for coaches and transportation

Given the increase in the number of students, even with increased expenses, the balance at the end of the 07/08 school year should be approximately \$160,000, better than the strategic plan goal for the year of \$152,094.

Current enrollment for 07/08 is 230. Some attrition is anticipated over the summer. All families will have gone through enrollment and contracts process. Should the enrollment exceed 215, a portable classroom may be needed. Contingencies will be prepared for enrollments and income that are too low or too high.

Resolution 07051702 approving the 2007/8 school year budget was offered by Connie Lepro, Seconded by Angela van der Puije and unanimously approved.

B. Building Committee

Jim Groess reported:

- Badge reading system is in process
- Signage is ordered for entry drive
- Summer building project list is being made
- Aaron thanked Jim for assistance with the spring trip

C. Fundraising and Development

Connie gave an update on progress:

- The Great Extravaganza is estimated to have netted \$18,000, exceeding the goal of \$16,000
- Trip ask is up to \$45,610. A new trip letter will request \$500 from new and returning students.
- Annual fund at \$15,289 (no change).
- Great River Walkathon set for 5/20
- Fund raising strategy, goals and reporting plan in progress and likely to be presented to the board for decisions in June.
- \$500 coming from Peace Foundation to support Peace Group attendance at spring Peach Jam.
- Grant application in for \$4,500 from GreenGuardian to support a J-term intensive
- Grant application in for up to \$10,000 for garage class for MIT InvenTeam project
- Grant proposal in to Perpich Center for \$8,000 for 2 year process to develop arts integration program: anticipated to hear back by May 31st.
- A request was made to Best Buy for 40 calculators.

D. Nominations Committee

With 85 ballots submitted (a return rate of 45%) Ben Moudry, Candy Husemoller, and Mary Gantenbein are confirmed as board members effective July, 2007.

E. School Support Committee

A college night was held in April; discussions underway on Project Welcome. A co-chair will be needed for this committee. Thanks to Lydia for planning and moving all activities forward.

F. Strategic Plan

A special school board committee will launch a 501C3 organization to explore future school site issues.

4. Director's Report

Aaron's report was shared. Trip ask funds will be used for the senior high fall land school (for grades 9 and 10) and for Midwest college tours (grades 11 and 12). Intensives are the same. Spring senior high trip will be to Louisiana for wetland recovery. Junior high experiences will include a trip heading east in the fall; the Jterm theater experience, and the spring bike.

Aaron complemented Alan on his service to GRS, and his help in making sure the school attained solid financial ground and developing effective budgeting and projection tools.

Finally, the staff is still debating the school schedule and the placement of the half day session, if retained. The school schedule will be brought to the board in June.

5. New Business

Resolution 07051704 Approval of Junior High bike trip as proposed by staff, offered by Eryn Dewey-Carter, Seconded by Angela van der Puije, and unanimously approved.

6. Adjourn at 8:20 pm

Consent Agenda
May 17, 2007

The GRS Board approves the following Consent Agenda items:

C07051701 – Approve April 12, 2007 Meeting Minutes

C07051702 Approved Staff Contracts for the following employees: Dewey-Carter; Donovan; Eldridge; Flood; Gantenbein; Kalinosky; Kilian; Kunz; McAnerney; Miesle; Scott; van der Puije; Wade; and Zdenek.

C07051703 Approve MACS Special Education Director Contract

C07041704 Approve School Business Solutions Contract FY2008 and FY2009

Offered by Stuart Mason

Seconded by Connie Lepro

Adopted this 17th day of May, 2007 by unanimous GRS Board vote.

Resolution 07051701
Review Check Register

The GRS Board has reviewed the check register listing checks written on GRS's behalf from April 1, 2007 to April 30, 2007.

Offered by Jim Groess

Seconded by Stuart Mason

Adopted this 17th day of May, 2007 by unanimous GRS Board vote.

**Resolution 07051702
Great River School
2007-8 Budget**

The GRS Board approves the 2007/8 school budget.

Offered by Connie Lepro.

Seconded by Angela van der Puije.

Adopted this 17th day of May 2007 by unanimous GRS Board vote.

Resolution 07051704
Junior High Bike Trip

The GRS Board approves the June 4 – 5, 2007 junior high bike trip as proposed by the junior high staff.

Offered by Eryn Dewey-Carter

Seconded by Angela van der Puije

Adopted this 17th day of May, 2007 by unanimous GRS Board vote.