

Sands Montessori Parent Organization

SMPO Rudder General Parent + Rudder Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2022 / 7 PM / In Person + Zoom Meeting

SMPO LEADERSHIP ATTENDEES:

Heather Gerker - President

Courtney Ryan - Vice President

Dave Rolfes – Executive Secretary

Becky Economou – Business Manager

Michelle Durban – Business Manager in Training

Allyse Sonnega – Parent at Large

Sarah Lord –Principal

Caitlin LaVine - 3-6 Teacher Representative

Sarah Fullen – 6-9 Teacher Representative

Lisa Bowden – 9-12 Teacher Representative

Nikki Marksberry – Community Coordinator

Rachel Danhires – SEP Coordinator

Holly Fritz – Fundraising Coordinator

Brittany Able – Communications Coordinator

LeAnn Gardner – Technology Coordinator

Chris Vockell – Athletics

Sharice Wood & Erin Seidel - LSDMC

Kim Fulbright & Alissa Paasch- ILT

SMPO Rudder GENERAL PARENT Meeting - May 17

Our mission is for families, staff, and students to work together to strengthen the Sands Montessori community of lifelong learners.

May 17, 7pm IN PERSON!

Or join us via Zoom, registration link: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpf-GtgiquHdD5_L76IHnqQQ04WCeOJhHW

TIME	CONTENT
7 - 7:10	<p>Welcome and call the meeting to order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nametags - welcome and introduce yourself to someone sitting next to you (folks on zoom can chat together too) • Mission review - will be reflected on at the beginning of every meeting • A special thank you gift. • Approval of minutes from April meeting
7:10 - 7:45	<p>Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Lord's report. • Business Manager (Becky Economou)- link to the budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Checking: \$54,188.59 ○ Savings: \$61,101.52 ○ Carnival estimate: just over \$6,900 income! ○ Please submit any outstanding reimbursements or invoices by the end of this week if possible. Contact me with any questions or issues. • Spring Carnival/Event wrap up - Emily • Athletics (Chris Vockell) • ILT (Alissa Paasch & Kim Fulbright) • LSDMC (Erin Seidel, Priya Rolfes, Richard Gross, & Sharice Wood) • Fundraiser Coordinator (Holly Fritz) • 3-6 teacher rep (Caitlin Lavine) • 6-9 teacher rep (Vanessa Barth) • 9-12 teacher rep (Lisa Bowden) • Intervention Specialist rep (Kris Spurgeon) • Fine Arts rep (Robyn Appino) • Any questions on reports listed below? <p>View reports sent via email below.</p>
7:45 - 8:05	<p>New Business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A warm welcome to the new rudder members • Incoming/outgoing rudder members connection time and review next steps in transition process - Heather • Stay tuned for summer meeting plans (to build the budget for the year)
8:05 -	<p>Old Business:</p>

8:25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still looking for a SMPO business manager in training volunteer • Outdoor Campus updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Madison Tree visit (Caitlin) ○ Fingers crossed that Sun Belt will also be offering machinery and one person for an 8 hour work shift to help dig the sand pit and move logs with a skid steer. That's huge for time, money, and all of our backs. ○ We have spent \$30,514.67 on trees, picnic tables, shade structure, and blacktop stencils. HUGE shout out to Becky E. for helping me get everything ordered. ○ We are still trying to get a tree planting date on the books. Hopefully, we can get at least a few trees in next week for kids to help with, but it may be after school is out. I went and looked at them and they were so beautiful that I did a little dance. ○ Bob will be pouring concrete for the Gaga pit shortly after school is out. Goodbye, awful smell. ○ Shade structure and picnic table will be installed the second half of July. ○ The rest of the work may be after July 9 (to paint the blacktop and build the playscape and put up the fence). ○ Folks are starting to volunteer for outdoor duties. Really cool to see people get excited. But we need more excitement! Please ask all to spread the word about donating or buying a legacy tree and volunteering. That money will go into building a fence, which is unplanned but needed (for the preschoolers) now that we are doing a bigger project than originally planned. If anyone has ideas or connections, shoot them all Courtney's way, pretty please. • Field Day planning updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All set for Friday...which will include an inflatable obstacle course courtesy of the Student Council! • Yard Sign purchase - still available! Check the SMPO website. • Any other "old business" to address?
8:25 - 8:30	Wrap up and questions - a reminder to review reports sent via email below!
8:30	Adjourn

Reports sent via email:

Communication Coordinator (Brittany Able)

- The E-newsletter is now bi-weekly, keep that in mind when sending Brittany blurbs in case they are dated. Also, Facebook will be in real-time so anything anyone wants to be posted on social media can send it to Brittany and she will post it accordingly. Brittany's email: britthuff@gmail.com
- Be sure to send an end date for announcements so Brittany knows when to remove them from the e-newsletter and FB.

Technology (Leann Gardner)

- Reminder that we have an SMPO website - sandsparents.org that contains lots of information including many of the items and events in the bi-weekly newsletters.
- Check out the homepage that features a new scrolling carousel that showcases our Sands Regal Eagles, and more!

Volunteer Coordinator (Amy Hueneman)

- Room Parent Update: We're closing the year with a few Rooms still open for a position. At the beginning of the new school year, we'll kick off another request to fill/renew all spots and start the 22/23 school year off strong.
- Field Day Volunteer Request: Need one volunteer for the morning. All spots filled for the afternoon. If rain, will need to do a call out to fill all spots on the 5/23 Rain Date (currently have 16/25 for AM and 9/20 for PM).

Sands Extracurricular Program - SEP (Rachel Danhires)

- Acting Skills for Life is discontinuing its partnership with us due to the instructor's move. We thank them for many years of service to the Sands community. They have referred to Playhouse in the Park who will be offering drama programming next school year! Registration for Summer programming is still open.

Parent At Large (Alyse Sonega)

- The Sands Montessori Community Back-to-School Picnic will be 4-6 p.m. on Thursday, August 11th, 2022 at the Spirit of '76 Shelter at Lunken Park.
 - SMPO will provide popsicles and cold drinks to share. Feel free to pack a picnic for your family to enjoy.
 - We hope you'll join us to kick off the school year with old and new friends!

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:07pm by Heather Gerker

Reviewed SMPO mission as a group

Heather Gerker provides a special gift for Nikki Marksberry who will be moving to Mt. Washington School next year.

Nikki Marksberry makes a motion to approve the April SMPO Minutes (linked above & sent out prior to the meeting); Holly Fritz seconds the motion & all approve.

Principal Update – Sarah Lord

We are grateful to end the year the way we are with the school essentially fully open and loving the return to normalcy. We had volunteer appreciation and are happy to welcome families back for year end activities.

(It was called out that the April meeting minutes were missing Lisa Bowden and Kris Spurgeon on the attendee list as they attended virtually; the April attendee list has been amended)

Business Manager – Becky Economou

About \$6900 in income from carnival but it is not final quite yet. Balances are published above; any outstanding items should be submitted as soon as possible

Spring Carnival – Emily McNicholas

Invoice needed for bouncy house to pay the community council but aside from that everything seems buttoned up. Nikki Marksberry asks about a number of attendees and the group estimates around 1200-1400 attendees throughout the day

ILT Update – Alissa Paasch & Kim Fulbright

ILT & certified staff voted on for an approach within the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) framework; restorative focus will be the emphasis and will be in effect for 2022-2023 school year.

LSDMC – Principal Sarah Lord

Brooke Rice will be Resource Coordinator and is pending board approval; we hope to have her in place at the start of next school year.

Fundraising -Holly Fritz

Gold Star Chili in Mount Washington is the fundraiser is tonight; an oversight from Gold Star led to lack of publication

3-6 Representative Update - Caitlin LaVine

Thanks for Teacher Appreciation week!

6-9 Representative Update - Sarah Fullen

Thanks for Teacher Appreciation week! Last SMPO, but moving into a role to match up with ILT.

9-12 Representative Update - Lisa Bowden

Question about binders/folders for next year and whether all 9-12 kids will get materials; a move from about 180 to about 256. It was confirmed that binders would be purchased for all and we will make sure to account in the 2022-2023 budget. Target seemingly has the best price.

Athletics - Chris Vockell

Fall soccer registration coming in mid-June

Intervention Specialist - Kris Spurgeon

Nothing to report

New Business

Welcome to the new members! Google Drive will be updated to provide access and the new & prior member should connect to understand the role over the summer.

Last meeting of the school year. We will have a budget meeting over the summer. The plan is to have the business manager, vice president, and president to draft &

present the budget & it's approved by the Rudder at the summer meeting. It's then reviewed & approved by the general parent meeting in August.

Old Business

Looking for business manager in training; must be at Sands at least two more school years; no accounting experience needed

Outdoor Campus Update

- Caitlin update with the Madison Tree – met with them at their 70 acre campus and marked a bunch of items to build out tables & stools; need to pay for fencing and hoping to use some money from the Legacy Trees fund to cover; share the link!

- Quick discussion followed on various points related to the outdoor campus:
 - Discussion about posting signage on the fence to help pay for it; under consideration

 - The SMPO Newsletter will include a link for tree purchases & volunteer sign up

 - Check with Jill in the office for TQL connection; she may be able to help get to the right people at TQL for a sponsorship

 - Sunbelt doing a lot of heavy lifting on volunteers

 - Already spent about \$35,000 already on materials

 - Still trying to figure out a tree planting date; hoping to have volunteers for some light help

 - Gaga Pit will get concrete soon after school is out; there is an open question about path to Gaga Pit; unsure of whether there will be a path or not; needs to be considered

 - Many of the items will be installed mid to late July

 - Talk about other fundraising ideas

- Raffle for family names on trees
 - Crowd funded tree for each room
 - Pavers idea to put family names on aside from just nameplates for trees
 - Sands Alumni Group (not a current item; but lots of energy on this topic. Leverage Walnut Hills / Clark Alumni groups; possible ideas)
- Nikki Marksberry reminded everyone that sidewalk chalk and other things available for days where kids are on site

Field Day

The committee is happy with volunteer efforts; student council has rented an inflatable obstacle course to use for Field Day; Nikki Marksberry mentions FCC water bottles provided that will be used for kids that day that forget water bottles

- Question about sunscreen; teachers cannot put sunscreen on without permission; SMPO newsletter will lead with sunscreen reminder
- Open questions about water activities and Kona Ice; Heather is checking with field day coordinators

Yard Sign purchases are still being accepted and Courtney should be picking them up and delivering them to school

Enrollment looking strong for 2022-2023; currently working through lottery

CPS Parent Listening Sessions

Attended parent listening session; please take the survey sent by CPS; district is launching new website; two more listening sessions occurring and available on Facebook Live

Sarah Lord relays that no shift in start times in 2022-2023 due to transportation

Caitlin LaVine motions to adjourn and Nikki Marksberry seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm.