



## LHU Board of Directors Regular Meeting

**March 20, 2024 6:30 PM**  
**Sterling Montessori Academy and Charter School**  
**202 Treybrooke Drive, Morrisville, NC 27560**  
**Virtual via Google Meet**

### 1. COMMENCEMENT

Call to Order and Board Attendance w/Determination of Quorum  
 At 6:34pm

Quorum Present with following Board Members in Attendance:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>		<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>		<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>
Katie Brown	X		Kevin Hughes	X		Elizabeth Uzzell	X
Kim Elliott	X		Dwayne Jones	X		Robert Wolfe	X
Jessi Fasola			Keisha Pressley	X		Lan Zhu	X
Ryan Hill			Rachel Richardson	X			

Reading of Mission Statement:

*“The mission of Sterling Montessori is to create a diverse educational community, grounded in the Montessori philosophy and teaching practices, that fosters curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking in its students. We strive to empower each student to become life-long learners who respect themselves, others, and their environment.”*

Conflict of Interest Statement

*“At this time, we ask all board members to make a statement to be recorded in the minutes should they know of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. It is the duty of each board member to abstain from discussion and voting on such matters.”*



Native Land Acknowledgement

*“The LHU Board recognizes that Sterling Montessori sits on the ancestral land of the Tuscarora, Lumbee and Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Tribes. As we strive to become better stewards of the environment, we also strive to provide a more equitable and culturally responsive environment for all students, but especially Black and indigenous students of color.”*

Agenda Items:

*Including any related consent agenda items or discussion items added to agenda prior to consent vote.*

- Approval of Hires and Closed session to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of a present or prospective public officer or employee [N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6)]
- Update of 2023-2024 budget with additional expenses added to current budget

*\* Virtual meeting went through some technical difficulties but resolved*

**Approval of Agenda**

At 6:41p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve the agenda. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown	X				Kevin Hughes	X				Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X				Dwayne Jones	X				Robert Wolfe	X		
Jessi Fasola					Keisha Pressley	X				Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill					Rachel Richardson	X							



## 2. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

*Please hold community comments until the end of ALL presentations. Board members may ask clarifying questions at this time of the presenter. Any board member may move to refer further discussion or other action back to the committee, with a vote.*

### Executive Director's Report – Maureen Capillo

- Denise Kimball (Director of Operations) did a presentation around the roles and personnel on admin
- Denise walked through a proposal to purchase buses for Sterling
- ED walked through the ED report and answered questions including around intent to return data, cost associated with potentially opening an 8th UE classroom in the future

### Communications Committee Report - Ryan Hill

- Did not meet this month

### Finance Committee Report - Kim Elliott

- Discussion around planning of 2024-2025 budget - to be discussed further at next Finance committee
- Proposed additional spend in 2023-2024 budget given additional room in Sterling's Debt Coverage Ratio (required of at least 1.05 and currently 1.49) - additional spending includes paying for staff Montessori training, computers and devices, lights, and chairs

### DEI Committee Report - Dwayne Jones

- Dwayne covered what was discussed and shared during the DEI committee

### Policy Committee Report - Kevin Hughes

- Walker policy - recommending opening walking only to 7-8 graders but will look to survey parents of 6-7-8 graders

### Development Committee Report – Robert Wolfe

- Did not meet this month



Governance Committee - **Katie Brown**

- Approval of hires protocol - now awaiting OCS approval
- Call for new board member applications

Strategic Planning Committee Report - **Katie Brown**

- Katie covered what was discussed at Strategic Planning
- Summary of the discussion around for sale property on Treybrook corner. Price is very high at \$1.8MM and purchase of property would not increase Sterling's impervious surface ratio so would not enable additional development on property

Community Comments (3 minute time limit)

*The Board Secretary will record names of speakers with a brief summary of comments. The board will not directly respond to any comments during this time. Please provide contact information to [president@lhuf.org](mailto:president@lhuf.org) to allow for follow-up by the appropriate officer or committee chair. Formal comments may be emailed to [president@lhuf.org](mailto:president@lhuf.org) ahead of any regular meeting to be considered for agenda/discussion.*

- None
- 

### 3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

*Consent agenda items are non-controversial items unanimously recommended for approval by all involved parties and have already been reviewed by the board and Executive Director. Any board members or the Executive Director may request to pull items off the consent agenda.*

Approval of Consent Agenda Items.

- [Approval of February 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes](#)
  - [Approval of March 2024 Special Meeting Minutes](#)
  - Modification of 2023-2024 Budget for the inclusion of additional expenses/surplus spending:
    - \$100K Montessori training
    - \$90K computers and devices
    - \$30K lights
    - \$30K chairs
    - \$154,000 solar panels
-



At 8:25p Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve Consent Agenda Items. Approved.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown	x				Kevin Hughes	x				Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	x				Dwayne Jones	x				Robert Wolfe	x		
Jessi Fasola					Keisha Pressley	x				Lan Zhu	x		
Ryan Hill					Rachel Richardson	x							

#### 4. CLOSED SESSION

##### Enter Closed Session

To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of a present or prospective public officer or employee [N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6)].

At 8:26p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to go into closed session. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown	x				Kevin Hughes	x				Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	x				Dwayne Jones	x				Robert Wolfe	x		
Jessi Fasola					Keisha Pressley	x				Lan Zhu	x		
Ryan Hill					Rachel Richardson	x							



**Return to Open Session**

At 8:38p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to return to open session. No action taken. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown	X				Kevin Hughes	X				Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X				Dwayne Jones	X				Robert Wolfe	X		
Jessi Fasola					Keisha Pressley	X				Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill					Rachel Richardson	X							

**5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEM**

**Consent Item – Approval of Hires**

At 8:40pm, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve the hire of personnel as noted below. Approved

Full Name	Classroom/Section	Position (Year)	Action / Change	Note
Jessica Weiser	CH	Lead Teacher	Hire	For 2024-2025 school year
Rasmi Subudhi	CH	Assistant Teacher	Hire	For 2024-2025 school year
Bhuvanna Prabu	CH	Assistant Teacher	Hire	For 2024-2025 school year
Sanjini Santhosh	CH Aftercare		Hire	For Fall 2024
Mike Blouin	UE	Lead Teacher	Hire	For 2024-2025 school year, waiting for resume (internal candidate)



Desteanna Rouser	MS	Teacher Associate	Hire	For 2024-2025 school year
TJ Rogers	MS	Long Term Sub - MS Math Teacher	Hire	Pending references

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs	Name	Aye	Nay	Abs	Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown	X			Kevin Hughes	X			Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X			Dwayne Jones	X			Robert Wolfe	X		
Jessi Fasola				Keisha Pressley	X			Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill				Rachel Richardson	X						

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:44p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to adjourn. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs	Name	Aye	Nay	Abs	Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown	X			Kevin Hughes	X			Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X			Dwayne Jones	X			Robert Wolfe	X		
Jessi Fasola				Keisha Pressley	X			Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill				Rachel Richardson	X						



**Attendance:**

Anchored Success Accounting & Management Services

Carroll Krause

Denise Kimball

Dwayne Jones

Elizabeth Uzzell

Katie Brown

Keisha Pressley

Kevin Hughes

Kim Elliott

Lan Zhu

Maureen Capillo

Rachel Richardson

Robert Wolfe

Ryan Hill

Susan English

Susan Jones

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