## LHU Board of Directors Special Meeting

**August 18, 2023 5:00 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 5:03pm

##### Quorum Present with following Board Members in Attendance:

| **Name** | **Present** |  | **Name** | **Present** |  | **Name** | **Present** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Katie Brown |  |  | Ryan Hill |  |  | Rachel Richardson |  |
| Kim Elliott | X |  | Kevin Hughes | X |  | Elizabeth Uzzell | X |
| Jessi Fasola | X |  | Dwayne Jones | X |  | Robert Wolfe | X |
| Leslie Hamilton |  |  | Keisha Pressley | X |  | Lan Zhu | 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 Student Handbook
* Before and Aftercare Update
* Exceptional Children Update
* ADM update/Finances
* Approval of hires
* Closed session to discuss approval of hire and personnel related matters per NCGS: 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)]

**Approval of Agenda**

At 5:0p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve the agenda. Approved

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

### 2. 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 5:10pm, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to enter closed session per NCGS [N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6)]. Approved

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

**Return to Open Session**

At 6:08p, 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 |  |  |  |  | Ryan Hill |  |  |  |  | Rachel Richardson |  |  |  |
| Kim Elliott | X |  |  |  | Kevin Hughes | X |  |  |  | Elizabeth Uzzell | M |  |  |
| Jessi Fasola | X |  |  |  | Dwayne Jones | X |  |  |  | Robert Wolfe | X |  |  |
| Leslie Hamilton |  |  |  |  | Keisha Pressley | X |  |  |  | Lan Zhu | X |  |  |

### 3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

**Consent Item – Approval of Hires**

At 6:12pm, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve the personnel changes as noted below and discussed in closed session. Approved

| **Full Name** | **Classroom/Section** | **Position (Year)** | **Action / Change** | **Note** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Prithivi Arunkumar | CH | Aftercare | Hire |  |
| Rashmi Subudhii | CH | Aftercare | Hire |  |
| Patricia Calle | CH | CH Lead | Move | Move from UE to CH (A6) |
| Mike Blouin | UE | co-lead | Move | Co-lead w/Nicole (D14) |
| Nicole Pratt | UE | co-lead | Move | Co-lead w/Mike (D14) |

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

**Consent Item – Approval of Stipends**

At 6:12pm, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve the distribution of stipends for staff performing additional duties for the 2023-2024 school year as discussed in closed session, not to exceed $20,000. Approved

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

### 4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

* Exceptional Children Update
  + Missed 90-day timeline for a student. DPI investigation noted this miss and letter issued to school (shared with Board)
  + Directed - have a meeting before August 25 (missed the deadline because there were multiple category that the student could qualify but a 3rd category would require additional testing. It was agreed that the August 25 meeting would be rescheduled to allow time for the additional testing
  + Also directed - additional training for staff. Typo in letter (wrong date) - deadline is before Thanksgiving break
  + Sterling had also asked for mediation (back in the Spring) but the parent declined that offer. In order to have mediation, both parties had to agree
  + Sterling also asked for a facilitator, that request is still pending.
  + Received withdrawal of enrollment of said student today - so the meeting is no longer required (just the training video)
* Approval of Student Handbook
  + Will review the effectiveness of this as a tool at the end of the 2023-2024 school year
* Before and Aftercare Update - CH aftercare is fully staffed with the 2 hires approved during this meeting
  + Monday, October 2 is target start date for elementary aftercare w/third party (Next Prep Kids)
* ADM update/Finances - more formal presentation of 2023-2024 budget to be presented at regular September board meeting (9/20/23)

### 5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEM

**Consent Item – Approval of Student Handbook**

At 6:45pm, Kevin Hughes moved to approve the student handbook. Approved

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

6. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:55p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to adjourn. Approved

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

**Attendance:**

| **Full Name** | **First Seen** | **Time in Call** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Denise Kimball** | **8/18/2023 16:59** | **0:46:35** |
| **Dwayne Jones** | **8/18/2023 16:59** | **1:56:08** |
| **Elizabeth Uzzell** | **8/18/2023 17:00** | **1:55:53** |
| **Jessi Fasola** | **8/18/2023 17:03** | **1:52:24** |
| **Keisha Pressley** | **8/18/2023 17:01** | **1:54:19** |
| **Ken George** | **8/18/2023 17:00** | **0:45:50** |
| **Kevin Hughes** | **8/18/2023 16:59** | **1:56:15** |
| **Kim Elliott** | **8/18/2023 17:00** | **1:55:25** |
| **Lan Zhu** | **8/18/2023 16:59** | **1:56:15** |
| **Maureen Capillo** | **8/18/2023 17:07** | **1:48:20** |
| **Robert Wolfe** | **8/18/2023 17:01** | **1:54:47** |
| **Scott Zerbe** | **8/18/2023 16:59** | **0:46:39** |