

**Maria Montessori Charter Academy
Charter Council Meeting
Minutes
Monday, October 17, 2005**

The MMCA Charter Council held a regularly scheduled meeting at the school, called to order at 6:15 pm. Five (a majority) voting members were present: Tracy Estridge, Amy Christian, Banetta Bacchi, Julia Bass, and Petsy Wendt. John Elo arrives at 6:30, Fallon Vaughan arrives at 6:50,. Brent Boothby was also present.

Public comment: none

Consent Items:

05/10/17:1 Carried 5-0-0. Minutes of Sept. 19, 2005 were approved.

Action Items

05/10/17:2 Teachers and CC are generally satisfied with the current levels of test preparations. Teachers will assess regular classroom activities for opportunities to enhance test-taking skills, practice or experience. Modifications may be implemented as practical without compromising the Montessori model. School test scores could be improved in future years by manipulating category assignments of lowest-performing students. Concerned parents can be encouraged to enhance students' test performance through practice at home.

05/10/17:3 Carried 6-0-0. By-laws to be amended to reflect the current CC election practice of balloting during the November parent-teacher conferences.

Administrator's Report:

05/10/17:4 Final loan payment of \$50K will be made this year. Budget looks good except for under-enrollment in the 2nd-3rd classrooms.

05/10/17:5 Volunteer parent committee has been working on weeding, mowing, trimming and tidying of Sunset site. Technology committee to help with tech support. Sunset site lease ends July 1, 2005. Will need to formulate contingency plans in case of difficulty renegotiating.

05/10/17:6 First \$400K of construction funds in bank. Property in due diligence phase of escrow. Working on engineering and grading plans. Consulting firms lined up for subsequent steps.

Closed Session: none

Charter Council Members comments:

Petsy Wendt: Would like to discuss, at some time in the future, the possibility of going to a year-round schedule.

Amy Christian: FYI: Science and Technology Access Center (STAC), a nonprofit center in Roseville partners with schools to teach a variety of computer classes as an after-school program on school sites. They offer a 6-week program, one day per week for 2 hours. The cost is \$49/student, and is targeted toward grades 4-6 and 7-8. They require a minimum of 13 students. Could consider once have our own computer lab or could consider working with the Rocklin Elem. computer lab

Tracy Estridge: Governance Charter Council Workshop held in Yuba City on 9/29/05 was very informative. Reviewed/discussed were the Brown Act, student expulsions and conflict-of-interest issues. Brent, Tracy and Amy attended. Next workshop to be scheduled in Feb; all CC members are encouraged to attend.

Meeting adjourned 7:27 p.m.

Next meeting (**not on the regularly scheduled date** due to Thanksgiving vacation) will be November 14, 2005 at 6 pm at the MMCA Sunset site.