

## MLCS Board Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2025



### **Board Members present**

Will Sarkisian, Megan Lee, Jason Podesta, Kristie Laxague, Stephanie Niven

### **Others present**

Stephanie Torok, Annie Stayer, Jessica Cole, Beth Duncan, Karen and Michael McDaniel, Donnie Wright, Crystal Wolf, Julie Smith, Natalie Durnall, Denise Peck, Jennie Radonich, Aleja Oliva, Haley Harper, Carolyn Reel, Chelsae and Jeremy Scheller, Dillon Stone, Adam Michael, Michelle Evans

**Will called the meeting to order at 4:30pm and Jason opened with prayer.**

### **Approval of minutes**

October minutes: Will opened a motion to approve. Kristie made the motion to approve, Megan second the motion, all in favor and approved.

### **Public Comment**

Chelsae and Jeremy Scheller introduced themselves, they have 3 children that attend MLCS. They would like their son Stoic to attend here with his siblings and are here tonight to be an advocate for him.

### **Reports**

#### **Administrator Report**

Stephanie Torok reporting:

Our 1<sup>st</sup> trimester has just ended. Pillar Awards will be given out to students this week along with 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade honor roll. We want the kids to feel honored by these awards. We used Charlie Radonich's design for the Pillar Awards and our Jog-a-Thon t shirts. We honored our Mathletes at our assembly, Stephanie loved being their coach. We will continue to do this each year. Julie Smith told our teachers how much Jog-a-Thon money was going into their class accounts. Amber Karpus will be hosting our staff Christmas party this year.

#### **Preschool Report**

Crystal Wolf reporting:

A new student will be starting in January, they are now at max capacity. All is well.

#### **PTF Report**

Julie Smith reporting:

Jog-a-Thon was a huge success! Business sponsorships brought in \$22,850. The student pledges totaled \$34,813. The teachers were excited and thankful for the money being put into their class accounts. PTF created a budget for this year, and we are well above that so far this year. Chris Buck met with Sonora Area Foundation, and they would like to be our main sponsor for our golf tournament this year. This Friday is our all-school Thanksgiving Feast.



## **Financial Report**

Jessica Cole reporting:

Jog-a-thon funds will be deposited into the class accounts before break. We received a \$1,000 grant to be used for the new outdoor PE obstacle course from Sonora Area Foundation. Such a great surprise! More to follow in closed session.

## **Teacher Report**

Karen McDaniel reporting:

We just wrapped up the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester and we're swinging into the 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade class was the first to read 5 million words!

## **Facilities and Projects**

Donnie Wright reporting:

Jog-a-thon went well, so proud of the kids! Every child exceeded their goal! The PE course project will be starting soon; we have more cleaning up to do. It is anticipated to be finished by March. Donnie gave the board a list of our top 12 project needs. We couldn't find a wrestling coach this year, hopefully next year will look different so we can continue offering that sport. Our cross-country kids did amazing at the tri county finals! Luis Corona and his crew came out and fixed the leaks in our gym free of charge, thank you Luis!

## **Old Business**

### **Board Member Search**

Ongoing and any recommendations or interested individuals are encouraged to reach out to any Board Member.

## **Grants**

Natalie Durnall reporting:

Natalie is still waiting to hear if we were accepted for the \$25,000 grant for the new exterior double doors that we applied for. Her plan is to ask Sonora Area Foundation to match it if we get approved for that grant, so we can also replace the L building doors. She won't get quotes for that yet. The security grant that Donnie submitted last year is open again to apply for. Natalie is going to do her best to get that submitted again before their December deadline. She is hoping that by us asking for less money, that we would have a better chance of getting approved.

She would love to see our school become a Blue-Ribbon school, excellence in math and reading. Stephanie mentioned that since we don't do the state standardized testing, we wouldn't be able to apply for that.

## **New Business**

An invitation was sent out to parents for anyone interested in participating in a Financial Committee. This committee will review budget materials and advise us on items as needed. So far we have had a great response; Aaron Rasmussen, Mike Niven, Candice Myers, Season Ingram and Bryan Gerdau have all reached out to the board showing interest in being on this committee. Megan is talking to a few more parents. She's excited about this committee and involving parents in decisions and advising on that level.

**The meeting ended at 5:00pm.**

**Next meeting is December 9, 2025 at 4:30pm in the Chapel.**

**-Closed session**