UMSI Board Meeting

January 23 , 2021 7pm

# Board Members and Staff Present:

* Carolyn Case
* Mark Nardo
* Jess Davis
* Kathy Lause
* Jamie Sellhorn
* [Erika Eicholz](mailto:mrs.eicholz@ourmsw.org)
* [Ines Oldenburg](mailto:ioldenburg@oakfarmschool.com)
* [Tiffany Fennig](mailto:tnfennig23@gmail.com)
* Laurie Stockton-Moreno
* Teresa Heaverin

Mark reads the UMSI Mission Statement.

**Mission Statement:** With integrity, United Montessori Schools of Indiana fosters a community that supports, unifies, and advocates for the advancement of Montessori education.

# Treasurer’s Report

* Kathy will send Quickbooks reports to go out with minutes.
  + Dekko grant received-$15,000 + possible additional $20,000
  + PPP loan forgineness complete
  + A couple of checks came in from Summer Fundamentals
  + Carolyn’s position is funded through at least June 2022

# Executive Director Report

* Mingle events
  + postponed due to Covid
* Parent conference
  + planning committee will be inviting presenters, and is also looking for connections to other potential presenters. Carolyn sent out a form to share with possible presenters.
* Mark has suggested Carolyn attend the AMS conference
  + We discuss the value for Carolyn vs. the expense of virtual registration, given UMSI’s budget
  + It is decided that regional conferences may be a better fit right now, given the budget
* Cincinnati Conference
  + Carolyn has registered for a table plus one additional person (Mark will go)
  + Jamie will also be there and help
  + March 5, 2022
* Summer Training 2022
  + Hopefully in person at IPS 87
  + Possibly July 18-22
  + First week of February the trainer application will come out
  + We discuss Covid precaution levels that must be necessary (masking, distancing, waivers, vaccination and/or negative test possibilities, etc.)
* Grant Update Process
  + Carolyn is beginning the process with the Community Foundation of Indiana because they are beginning their grant cycle
  + Carolyn needs help with grant processes, especially considering the anxiety this causes her due to job security related to grant funding; ideally there would be a couple of dedicated board members helping with this. It is essential for continuing to have a paid employee for UMSI.
* Fall Conference date 2022
  + We discuss October or early November dates
    - October 22 seems like the best date; we will have to look at Trine’s availability and also make sure we can do board slates in time to still introduce the new board at the conference, which doubles at the annual meeting

# Committee Updates

* Advocacy
  + Proposed language (SB118) that has been negotiated with FSSA and Sen. Raatz and will be in legislative session this week:
    - **For schools validated by the United Montessori Schools of Indiana, classrooms with children ages 2.5-6 years old, the ratio [and group size] will be calculated using the average age of the child on January 1st of the school year.**
    - This would apply to all UMSI Validated schools, and we discuss the repercussions for the validation program and its capacity
    - We discuss how to communicate this achievement once it passes
* Validation
  + One school has applied and we are awaiting their paperwork
  + Visits are currently postponed due to Covid, so we will have to continue to assess this as we move forward
    - We discuss the possibility of virtual visits
* Membership
  + Working on parent conference and networking opportunities
  + Working on ways to boost membership sign-up
* Governance
  + Meeting will be scheduled in February
  + Need to look at leadership transitions for those who may retire from board positions
* Social Justice
  + No updates; Carolyn suggests the committee may want to plan to meet in February.

**Next BOD meetings: – Dates/Times**

***Mar 20, 2022***

***May 15, 2022***

***Jul 17, 2022***

***Sep 18, 2022***

***Nov 20, 2022***