

St. Augustine Montessori Community, Inc.

Special Meeting Minutes 11/17/14

7 Williams Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084

Board Members:

Present: Jean McDowell, Roman Pytel, Nan Nutt, Irene Arriola, deAnne Deleon, Endo Pascasio and Judi Dunlap

Quorum present? Yes

Others present: Lorraine Myers and Tom Costeira .

Proceedings: Meeting initiated by Roman Pytel and called by deAnne Deleon. It was called to order at 6:00 pm by Jean McDowell.

Review of Public Notice: The meeting was advertised on the school by email to the school community.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None.

Staff Oversight and Expectations

- A. Roman stated that he is frustrated with the communication between the board and the director. He feels that there is lack of oversight for the way the information is given to the board. He receives information from the board, the teachers, the children and the parents and feels there are discrepancies for what he hears in SAPMS community and what he is presented at the board meetings.
- B. Some of Roman's communication concerns stem from an observation he did in the Upper Elementary classroom at the request of Kirby. Kirby has some concerns about a student that was not shared by Judi. Roman did share Kirby's concern over the child needing more help than the school is able to offer. He was surprised and concerned that this issue was not brought to the board in its entirety.
- C. Judi disagrees with Kirby and Roman's assessment of the child and reached out to a professional for a second opinion. That professional agreed with Judi's course of action. Judi also states that the child has made great progress in the classroom.
- D. Roman stated that he read the child's journals outside the school. Jean said that she is disturbed by the violations of protocol and the breach of the child's confidentiality. This issue should have been taken to Judi and then a board member. Once it is brought to a board member, it should have been shared with the board for further evaluation and decision making process. And without parent and/or director approval, reading the child's classroom journal is a violation of teacher confidentiality.
- E. Jean is going to review the policies and procedures to see where the breakdown and violations occurred and could possibly be revised for future prevention.
- F. Jean is going to send out an email to SAPMS community to ensure knowledge of communication path.
- G. Roman is going to provide an email with more details supporting the communication issues.

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Minutes submitted by deAnne Deleon, Secretary