



The Board of Directors
and Administration

Welcome You to the School Town Hall

November 28, 2023

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.



Welcome and Introductions

- **Moderator:** Lauren Ferrara (Marketing & Communications Director)
- **Board of Directors:** Becky Mikita (President), Ashley Pfalz (Vice President), Katie Hopkins (Secretary), Drew Bartlett (Treasurer), Jacob Castle and Chugrad McAndrews (Members at Large), Adam Wright (*ex officio* TLC Rep), Teresa Woods (*ex officio* Executive Director)
- **Administration:** Teresa Woods (Executive Director), Sarah Kreger (Director of School Performance), Karl Johnson (Pedagogical Director), Gary Pillars (Facilities Manager), Andrea Robertson (Business Manager), Cori Karasiuk (Dean of Students)



OVERVIEW



- Purpose is to update our community.
- Due to the large meeting format, designated speakers and moderator will be the only speakers.
- Questions on topics collected in advance and via chat at the end.
- We will answer as many questions as possible within our allotted time.
- Any unanswered questions on these topics will be addressed via a follow-up email to our whole community for transparency.





AGENDA TOPICS

- Financial and Capital Viability for Mountain Song's Present and Future
- Student Performance in Head, Heart and Hand
- Governance and Operations
- School and Community Culture

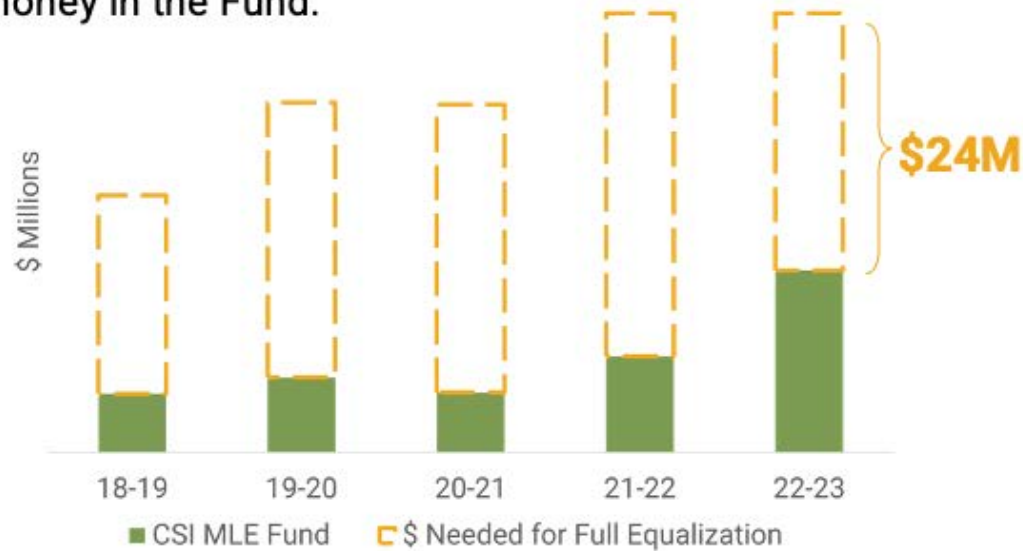
FINANCIAL AND CAPITAL VIABILITY

- Board Finance Committee – Financial Oversight
- Operational (annual) Budget
 - ~\$4.7M
 - Per Pupil Revenue (PPR): ~\$9,900 (CSI=3% and CDE=1%)
 - Enrollment dipped this year – 20 students less than projected
 - Competitive Grants Supplement Operating Budget (~\$150,000)
 - First year paying full debt service for bonds (building purchase) ~\$350,000
- Reserves (cannot access) ~\$1M
- BEST Grant – Capital Improvement
 - Cannot be used for operational expenses – only capital investment

MILL LEVY EQUALIZATION EFFORTS AT STATE

CSI Mill Levy Equalization Fund

CSI schools do not have access to local tax revenue. Given this, HB17-1375 created the Mill Levy Equalization Fund. It is up to the Legislature to annually appropriate money in the Fund.



- MLE funding increased this year.
- We still receive \$1,400 less per pupil than D11 schools.
- MSCS currently funds \$700 of per pupil gap.
- We are working on cost savings and fundraising to close the gap.
- This gap should close next year with full funding written into state's school funding formula.



CAPITAL FUNDING

- April 28, 2022 – purchased property with capital bonds
- Michelle Fisher – Owner’s Representative
- Leveraged \$1.2M remaining bond funds to apply for BEST Grant (CDE)
- BEST Grant (83%) and capital bonds (17%)
- Awarded BEST Grant in June 2023 ~\$10.8 M
 - Ranked #1
- Summer – interviewed and selected Design-Build Team



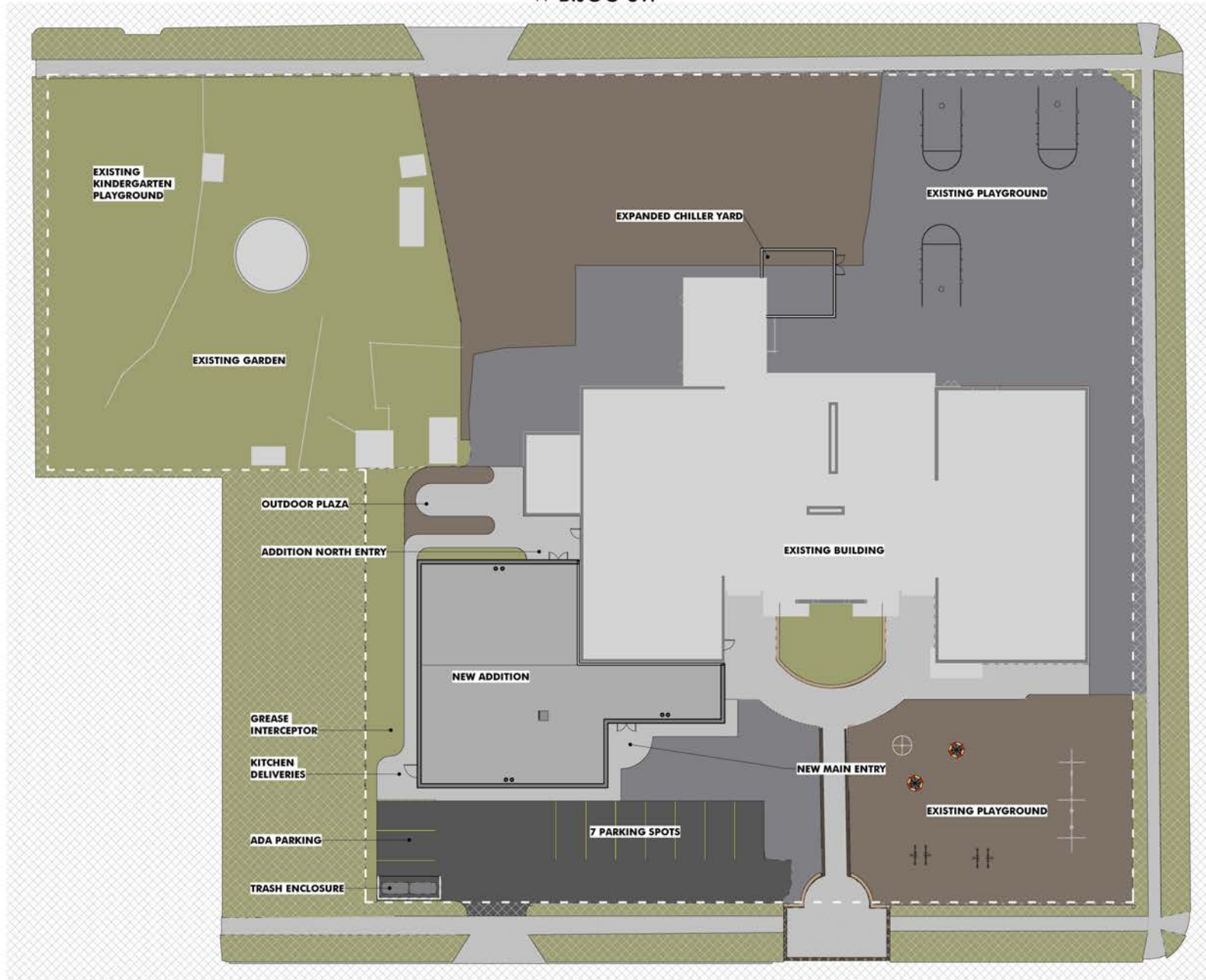
BEST CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

- Michelle Fisher, MFisher Collaborative Works, Owner's Representative
- MOA Architects and Fransen Pittman Construction – Design-Build Team
- MSCS Design Committee: Lauren Artino, Kim Butler, Sarah Kreger, Gary Pillars, Teresa Woods, Michelle Fisher
- MSCS User Groups – more specific user input
- November 15th – delivery of Schematic Design



MOA ARCHITECTURE

W BIJOU ST.



N 29TH ST.

W KIOWA ST.

BEST CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT TIMELINE

- November 15, 2023 – Completion of Schematic Design
- March 15, 2024 – Completion of Design
- October 14, 2024 – Start Construction for the Addition
- May 28, 2025 – Start Renovation of Current Building
- August 6, 2025 – Ready for School



STUDENT PERFORMANCE: HEAD, HEART, HAND



- Head: Academic Performance
- Heart: Social-Emotional Health
- Hands: Enhance Special Subjects



OUR K-8 STUDENTS

- 396 students (78 homeschool)
- Diversity
 - 64% White
 - 24% Hispanic or Latino
 - 13% Other
- Students with Disabilities – 21%
 - 69 (17%) IEPs
 - 15 (4%) 504s
- Gifted and Talented – 12 (3%) ALPs
- Socio-Economic Status – 46% FRL eligibility



ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE



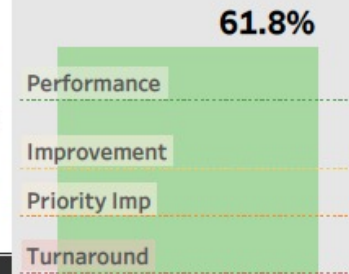
2023 Preliminary School Performance Framework

5851: Mountain Song Community School | 8001: Charter School Institute

Grade Levels: EM - (1 Year)

Plan Type	Official Rating based on 1-Year SPF Report
Performance Plan	61.8/100 Points Earned

The performance framework evaluates district and school performance on Academic Achievement, Academic Growth, and Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness indicators. The percentage of points earned across all indicators determines the final accreditation rating for a district or the final plan type for a school, which is displayed above. The cut points for final ratings established by the State Board of Education are shown at the right of this page. Failure to meet test participation, safety, and finance assurances may result in a rating being lowered by one level. Refer to the scoring guide near the end of this report for more details on how ratings are determined.



School plan types are based on the total percentage of points earned.

Indicator Rating Totals

Performance Indicator	Percent of Points Earned	Points Earned/Eligible	Rating
Academic Achievement	41.9%	16.8/40	Approaching
Academic Growth	75%	45/60	Meets

Performance Plan:
53.0% - 100%

Summary of Ratings by EMH Level

EMH Level	Performance Indicator	Percent of Points Earned	Points Earned/ Eligible	Rating	Points by Level	Overall Rating by Level
Elementary	Academic Achievement	46.6%	18.6/40	Approaching	71.1%	Performance
	Academic Growth	87.5%	52.5/60	Exceeds		
Middle	Academic Achievement	36.1%	14.4/40	Does Not Meet	51.9%	Improvement
	Academic Growth	62.5%	37.5/60	Meets		

Test Participation Rates and Total Participation Rate Descriptor*

Subject	Total Records	Valid Scores	Total Participation Rate	Parent Excusals	Accountability Participation Rate	Rating
English Language Arts	151	118	78.1%	31	98.3%	Meets 95% Participation
Math	151	119	78.8%	31	99.2%	Meets 95% Participation

Total Participation Rate Descriptor for Planning Purposes:

Low Total Participation

Low participation in CMAS Tests negatively impacts test scores.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

- COVID Crisis – Brought Test Scores Up
- Teacher Leadership Council
- Align with Alliance for Public Waldorf Education Standards
- Integrate Standards-Based Curricula
- PD on Evidence-Based Instruction
- Implement Science of Reading
- PD on Operationalizing Accommodations
- Refine MTSS
- Major Improvement Strategies on UIP



HEART: SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL HEALTH

- Social-emotional learning improves overall student success.
- SEL programs support students in learning 5 competencies.
- MTSS Programming in SEL and Behavior
 - Tier 1 All Students
 - Kindness Curriculum
 - Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Respectful, Be Responsible
 - Tier 2 Support – scheduled support
 - Tier 3 Support – 1:1 support



HEART: SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL HEALTH

- Mountain Song one of 7 schools in the state awarded a CDE K-5 SEL Grant
 - Kim John Payne's October talk – on our Parent webpage
 - Olweus Bullying Prevention Program
 - Mountain Song chosen for case study by grant evaluators



HANDS: ENHANCE SPECIAL SUBJECTS

- Agricultural Arts – Made Property Improvements
- Music – Hired Fully Waldorf-Trained Teacher 2 – 8
- Professional Development for Special Subject Teachers
- Planning Future Working Spaces
- Now Receive Mentoring Support by Pedagogical Director



TEACHER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

- Formed in Spring 2021
- **Purpose:** to review and create proposals to the Executive Leadership Team regarding the educational program at Mountain Song Community School.
- Comprised of representatives selected by their peers from area groups
 - Kindergarten
 - Elementary (2)
 - Middle School
 - Special Subjects
 - MTSS
 - Pedagogical Director
 - Executive Director



TEACHER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

- Advisory group to increase communication and coordination
 - Consensus decision making
 - Representation on the Board, FEC, Festivals, other committees
 - Flow of ideas and proposals through area groups, Board, and committees



TEACHER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

- School Improvements and Support
 - Community engagement through Parent Enrichment events and School Art Night
 - Teacher Training, Mentoring, and Professional Development
 - Curriculum and Alliance Standards
 - School Culture and Festivals



BOARD AND GOVERNANCE

- Responsible for the vision and mission of the school
- Board provides financial, legal, and compliance oversight
- Responsible for overall governance and policy creation in cooperation with leadership
- Not involved in day-to-day operations
- Membership
- Committees





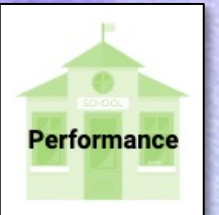
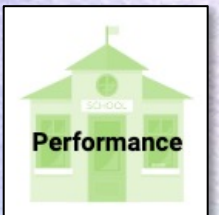



GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

- Increase Board Professional Development
- Developed Updated Strategic Plan
- Nurture Teacher Leadership Council
- Ensure Compliance of Financial and Legal Requirements
- Applying for Charter Renewal from CSI



CSI CHARTER CONTRACT RENEWAL UNDER REVIEW

 2013-14	N/A 2014-15	 2015-16	 2016-17	 2017-18
 2018-19	 2019-20*	 2020-21*	 2021-22	 2022-23

- School Performance CARS Report based on CMAS test performance
- Can lose ranking if organizational or financial metrics cause concern
- Charter Renewal Submissions (policies, financials, planning)
- Site Visit – September 28th
- Presentation to CSI Board – October 17th
- CSI Board review and decision – January 2024

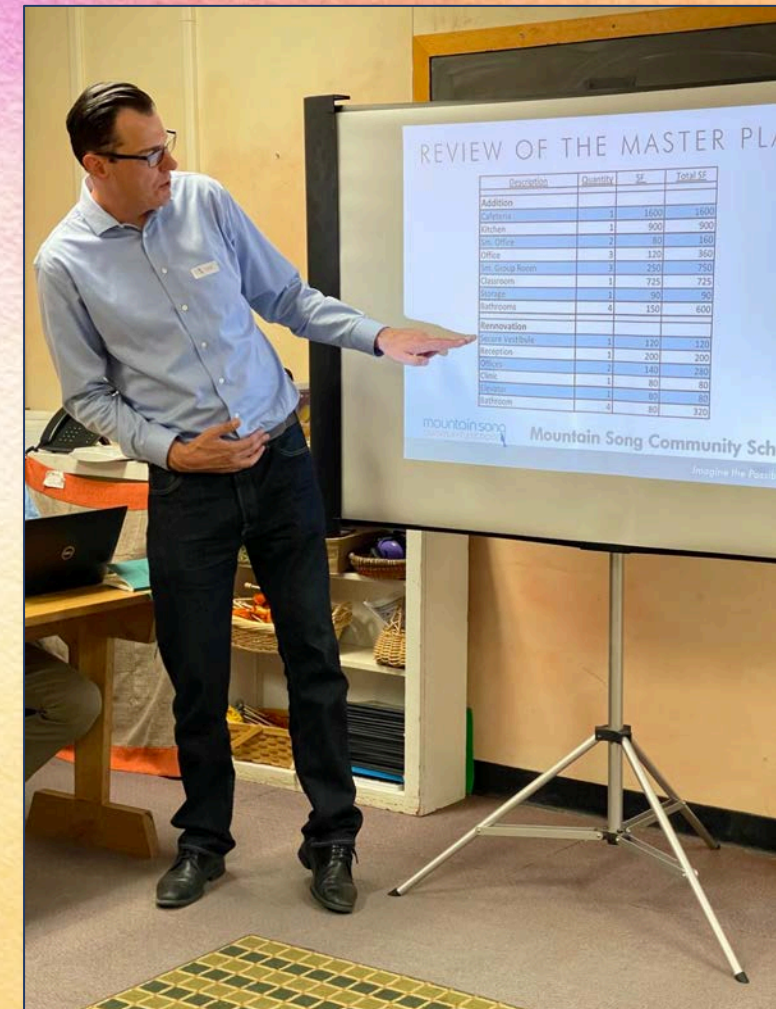
SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CULTURE

- Growing Middle School Enrollment
- Increased Rigor in Middle School
- 90% Teacher Retention Rate
- 15 CDE Teacher Grant Recipients
- SEL MTSS Refinement
- Develop Attendance MTSS



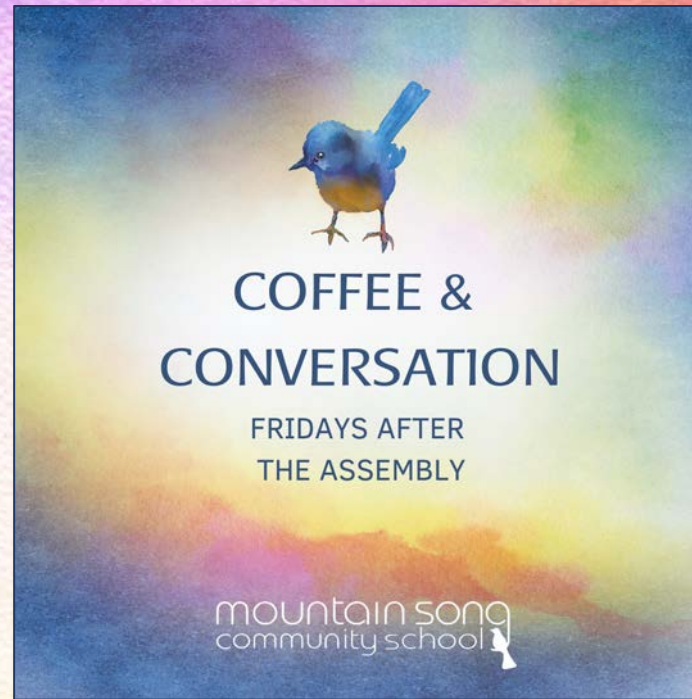
SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CULTURE

- Opportunity Gaps
 - School Lunch Program
 - ADA Access
- Interim Lunch Program
- Capital Improvement Project



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CULTURE

- Address Enrollment & Budget
- Parent Engagement
 - Family Engagement Committee (FEC) (formerly SAC)
 - Fundraising Committee
 - DEI Committee
- Parent Education & Involvement
 - Coffee & Conversation
 - Parent Events
 - Class Parent Meetings
 - Festivals



THANK YOU AND QUESTIONS

