



Board of Directors June Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2017, 6:00 pm at Mountain Song Community School

Mission: Mountain Song Community School (MSCS) is a community of families and educators dedicated to the conscious evolution of the whole child utilizing developmentally appropriate holistic education that nurtures body, mind and heart. Our aim is to bring forth healthy, confident, free-thinking, self-directed children who are passionately engaged with their education and empowered to contribute positively to the world.

6:00 I. Welcome & Reading of Mission Statement

Aubrey F called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

In attendance: Rita I, Jennifer B, Shannon R, Aubrey F, Pedro A, Michael K, Mike G

Staff: Raj S, Grian M, Shannon L, Kate P

Guests: Maggi B, Ann M, Joseph D, Michael HLD, Tracy G, Jenna H, Patrick Schmidt, Robyne LD, Denise M, Mary S, Ria H, Lulu M, Jen B

6:05 II. Consent Agenda

- a. Acknowledge Receipt of May Financials
- b. Approval of Homeschool Calendar
- c. Approval of *April, May, and June* Board Meeting Minutes
- d. Approval of extended Board terms for Members At Large, Jennifer Barnes and Mike Galvin, to serve on Mountain Song Board of Directors from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018
- e. Approval of Proposed Agenda
- f. Approval of SAC Committee 2017 Climate Survey

Shannon R moved to approve the consent agenda. Pedro A seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6:20 III. Public Comment

Joseph is pleased with the school after moving from a Waldorf school in California. Felt that parent input wasn't important at the old school. Isn't pleased with end-of-year rumors about Raj. Discipline is lacking here and isn't satisfied with Three Streams Process. Kids are happy here. That comes from the Director, the Board, the staff.

Kate's family has been at the school since the doors opened. Says the loss of a Director without continuity is a loss. We have a huge staff turnover this year and is concerned how that will look for an interim Director. Raj has been a supportive Director in seeing the need for additional office staff. Take the time to give the school the opportunity to transition correctly. Groups of disgruntled parents do not give her pause. She wasn't willing to work here for the previous directors, but is happy to for Raj.

Shannon wants to speak as a staff member in support of Raj staying on board at school. Husband sees how supportive Raj has been to her. Has made connections with staff at Juniper Ridge who is struggling with school performance. It offered her the chance to reflect on how successful Mountain Song has been under the Direction of Raj. People beyond her have heard her favorable view of him and that matters.

Michael highlights the school of Distinction accreditation and that our building is still here and flourishing and he commends the Board and administration for pouring their hearts and souls into the success here. The school needs to “stay the course” to allow the school to “bear fruit.”

Ann M agrees on the improvement of the school and its forward progress. Is frustrated about how things are going for one of her daughters at this school. Doesn't lay claim to whether Raj should stay or go, but believes children and parents should be given resolution. Her daughter was given a lot of support in her first year, but not in the past two. Support in Special Ed has gotten a lot better, but the school should not accept IEPs from children if they will not accommodate them. Her daughter needs this school more than anything, but she feels that things need to be resolved.

Lulu sees a lack of an obvious procedure for problems. There are a lot of frustrations in the community and people don't know the avenue to take those. She has had a wonderful experience at this school, even infiltrating her home. Creativity here is amazing. Raj helped her when their family was concerned about one of their children getting a spot in the school. Has had nothing but a great experience with Raj and at the school. Has avoided some conflict because it doesn't serve a purpose. There is great divisiveness here and would like to see that improved. She heard things throughout the year, but there needs to be a cohesiveness and a sense of having one another's backs.

Ria has been at the school for three years, beginning in the homeschool program. Her oldest daughter received the greatest accommodations. Raj is a supportive parent. She feels a very strong sense of community here and she thinks it starts with good leadership. We're small, Raj doesn't have the same support that leadership has at traditional schools. Feels there are people who are starting stuff and are digging and digging and ruining the school. Don't let some people destroy the school, put them in front of the Board for review. It's about love and it's about community. “Who better will fill his shoes?”

Robin's daughter has been in the school since it started. As parents, they aren't privy to issues between the administration and the Board. What she does see is her daughter's enthusiasm and joy at this school. Her daughter feels very safe and comfortable at this school. She really supports Raj

Jen supports Raj, adamantly. This would be the third and final straw for her family if Raj goes. Her son has some special life circumstances and appreciates that here her son doesn't have to endure scrutiny. Her son is an introvert, but is willing to go speak with Raj. Raj is a good person, is a good fit, and has done a good job.

Jenna just finished her second year here with two children. She loves Raj and wants him to stay.

Denise is on her second year here. They've had a great year. They had an issue this year and would like to see improved process.

6:45 **IV. New Business**

a. Governance Committee:

- i. Update on Recruiting Matters: Bill Burkett and other candidates
- ii. Schedule of Work Sessions for PG

Twice per month meetings until PG is in place. Will generally follow 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

- iii. Board Performance Review

Objective: to discuss process/next steps for all items

Send completed reviews to Shannon by Monday June 5th.

b. Officer Roles for 2017-'18:

i. *Motion to approve Jennifer Barnes as Treasurer for '17/'18 season*

Shannon R moved to approve Jennifer B as Treasurer for SY 2017-2018. Pedro A seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

ii. *Motion to approve that current Officer positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and SAC Committee Board Liaison remain as is for another month, whereupon said Officer positions will be reviewed and approved for '17-'18 season at the July Board meeting*

Jennifer B moved to approve Board Officers remain the same until the July Board meeting: President: Aubrey F, Vice President: Pedro A, Secretary: Shannon R. Shannon R seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Thank you to exiting Board member and Treasurer, Rita, for her service on the Board

d. Schedule July Board meeting

July 11, 5:00pm

July 18, 6:00pm

7:00 **V. Continuing Business**

a. Executive Session CRS 24-6-402(4)(f)(I & II) & CRS 24-6-402(4)(h)

Executive Director Performance Evaluation

Shannon R moved to enter Executive Session at 7:33pm. Rita I seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Shannon R moved to exit Executive Session at 10:55pm. Rita I seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7:30 **VI. Vote to Renew Executive Director per 6/2/17 Transition Plan OR Nonrenew Executive Director**

Pedro A moved to conduct a roll call vote regarding renewal of Raj Solanki as Executive Director beginning July 1, 2017 in accordance with the Board's June 2, 2017 Transition Plan. Rita I seconded. The roll call vote results were as follows:

Mike G: Nay

Michael K: Nay

Pedro A: Nay

Aubrey F: Nay

Shannon R: Nay

Jennifer B: Nay

Rita I: Aye

7:45 **Review and Approval of 6/26/17 Board Meeting Minutes**

7:50 **Adjourn Meeting**

Rita I moved to adjourn at 12:01am 6/27/2017. Mike G seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Upcoming Dates for your calendar:*

- July BOD Meeting: July 11, July 18
- BOD Retreat for '17-'18 SY: August 5, 2017, place TBD

