

THE SOURCE

Mountain Song Community School Board of Directors' Newsletter

Board Members:

Melanie

Chadwick,

President

Jennifer Barnes,

Vice President

Eva Manz-
Jackson,

Secretary

Greg

Augspurger,

Treasurer

Sandra Johnson-
Benning

Molly Orendorff

Contact the Board:

Ex: Melanie Chadwick
is
mchadwick@mountainsongschool.com

Agendas & Minutes:

[mountainsongschool.com/
about/governance](http://mountainsongschool.com/about/governance)

Next Meeting:

Thursday, July 2nd @
5pm

JUNE'S MEETING

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2015 6:00PM

We 'unofficially' welcomed the new school director (starting July 1st), Mr. Raj Solanki. Mr. Solanki, was a founder of Mountain Song Community School and served on the original board. He has been instrumental in many aspects of the school's success. We feel confident that his experience in helping to write Mountain Song Community School's original charter and accompanying paperwork, his past experience on the governing board for Mountain Song Community School, his leadership skills and his previous experience as a teacher with administrative responsibilities at Community Prep School (a local charter) will make him a successful leader.

Mr. Solanki will become head of Mountain Song Community School effective July 1, 2015. Until that time, Sra. Surage remains the Interim Director and all communications need to be addressed with her and/or the appropriate office staff.

This was a very uplifting meeting with the Director's report offering wonderful news about new teacher hires and collaborative work with the new Pedagogical Coordinator and CSI requirements. MSCS is in line to have compliance issues taken care of and purchase a new student information system that will incorporate all records, attendance, and handle much needed communication between the school and the parent community.

Jason with G&G attended the meeting and explained that his company will handle the August 15th deadline for the audit, and thanks to the new Business Manager, Dan Kurschner, they will move into an 'oversight only' position with the school in October.

The School Accountability Committee (SAC) reported the newly uploaded minutes and meeting dates for the 2015/16 school year. (9/14/15, 11/9/15, 1/11/16, 3/14/15, 5/9/15). Parents and community members are strongly encouraged to attend the SAC meetings, as the purpose of the committee is to

have feedback from a well-rounded group of stakeholders

There was much discussion surrounding what the Farm will look like next school year. Since the school receives Title I monies, all staff must be highly qualified to teach students. Mr. Tackett, unfortunately, does not meet those requirements at the present time. He will be leaving his position as the Agricultural Arts teacher to work at Flying Pig Farm in Manitou Springs. The goats will be relocating to the farm in Manitou Springs--but not to fear-- Mr. Tackett has graciously offered Flying Pig Farm for school tours! Although the goats will no longer be living at MSCS, students will be able to visit them in Manitou! The rabbits and some of the chickens will stay at the school, and there will be a shift to more of a 'seed to table' farm for integration with the grades curricula. The aim is to supply the Cooking Arts class with as many crops from the Farm as possible.

The Board would like to sincerely thank Mr. Jeremy Tackett for his many, many hours of hard work turning a parking lot into a working farm--and creating a strong culture in our school which gives space to appreciate the natural world.

Finally, with two more Board members leaving (Eva Manz Jackson's term ends in June, and Molly Orendorff is moving out of the area), the Board voted new members to start July 1st: Shannon Root, Mark Corey, and Michael Katzenberg.

We hope that everyone continues to have a wonderful summer!