

Coulee Montessori SET Minutes

March 17, 2026 5:30pm @ Central HS, Room 232

IN ATTENDANCE (Board Roster):

Kim Shively	Mariah Bigelow	Alex Hiller	Sarah Bradle
Sara Horstman	Ann Epstein	Kathryn Wiegrefe	Amy Merkey
Alex Kent			

Not present: Lisa Dillon, Andy Thomes, Alex Hiller

Other attendees: Jane Kuchel

CALL TO ORDER

Secretary's Report – Kathryn

Ann made a motion to approve the Secretary's report, Sara H seconded, the motion carried.

School Performance/Sharing Student Work – Staff

Summer School – the CM offerings did not get listed in the PDF, but they are on the online catalog. It's specifically for Montessori students, so ok that it's not in the public brochure, but we still need to advertise it. There was discussion on how to make parents aware. Posts could be made on Parent Square and Facebook, and info sent home in folders.

Miss Jane spoke on the process of a student coming to special ed, and her focus on the students once they get to her. There are two 10-week interventions that would happen prior to a student going to special ed. Most students in special ed are E1 or above, unless they come into school with a recommendation for special ed from a previous preschool.

Mariah has been nominated for Herb Kohl fellowship, which is a prestigious nomination! She has passed on to the second level at this point.

Principal Report - Sarah Bradle

The administrative level is currently working on staffing. CM will be maintaining our 7 sections and will have one traveling team for specials, but not sure yet which one. We are ok for this year, but need to see increased enrollment to continue to justify two sections for CH and E2. A TA determination has not been made yet.

A few potential legislative changes have been tabled until next year, so are no longer a current concern.

The third snow day will now require us to add 10 minutes to each day until the end of the year. School will let out at 2:35 now.

Districtwide Parents Update – Sara

The district is planning a replacement for Skyward. Those interested in previewing the vendors will be able to do so.

Ground has been broken for the new school, and many community members and students attended.

State Road is finalizing its expansion. Some teachers are currently teaching in the basement.

As Sara takes on more leadership next year, she would like to pass of the role of attending the DWP meetings to someone else. They are interesting meetings, but do get long.

Feedback on Pearl Street Book Event, Soup Supper and Family Fun Expo

Pearl Street Books: This was untargeted, and only a few families stopped by that were in the range we are trying to recruit. Next year, a Sunday afternoon may be more successful. We learned that Saturdays are often out-of town visitors, but Sundays are more often families.

Soup Supper: This is a fun tradition and a good family event. There were fewer attendees than past years, but still some interest from new families and a chance for current families to socialize. We could consider if a different month would be better for this event. The E2 students are excited to put it on.

Family Fun Expo: There was a steady flow of kids and parents to our table. We had 11 requests for more information or a tour. We want to keep doing this event next year.

Earth Fair – Sara

There was some discussion on whether this is a worthwhile event to do since it may not be very targeted toward families in the age range that we need, and we may not have enough volunteers to staff it the entire time. There is potentially no cost if we offer a kids activity. Could do newspaper cups and plant sunflower seeds. This could be a great event to advertise the plant sale at. Ann, Kim and Sara are potentially available. It's from 11-4pm, so should be broken up to a few shifts. Students could help too. We will go for the early shift and see who is able to be there. If not enough people come to help, then we pack up early. Sara H will register for us. We will sign up for the outside-only option and cancel if it rains. They will provide a table, we should bring a canopy.

Change April Meeting Date – Kim

Due to the spring concert being scheduled for the same date as the April SET meeting, we will reschedule the SET meeting for the following Tuesday – April 28.

Survey Results – Kim

We divided into groups and tallied results from surveys that families filled out at parent teacher conferences. Most families said they don't come to events because they are too tired or family schedules are too full. Kim will compile the data further for us to discuss more at a future meeting.

New Board Members

There was discussion of who we may want to personally ask to be on the SET team. Several names were brought up, and Kim will work on creating a statement that we could use to contact families.

Treasurer's Report – Alex

There was discussion on Kim providing Talent Show support as she did last year. Teachers spoke very highly of the improved performances and better flow of the talent show thanks to Kim's help last year. Mariah made a motion to approve paying Kim \$360 for Talent Show support. Sara H seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The Soup Supper brought in approximately \$80 from donations and merch sales.

A few E2 trips will be coming out of the budget in the next few months, but we currently have a balance of over \$13,000. Mariah thinks the greenhouse fund has more than

needed. She'd like \$2,000 set aside each year for it, and all excess can be spent for general SET purposes.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.