



# Creekstone Montessori School (CMS) Board of Directors

## Board Meeting Notes/Minutes

February 23rd, 2026, 5:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. (CDT)

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Item No.	Item, Conveyor(s), Description	Specifics
I.	<b>Call to Order</b> <i>Perry Sekus, Chair</i>	Welcome Establish Quorum: Perry Sekus, Michelle Sturm, Katelyn Reynolds, Elissa Behnke, Tina Duerkop, Danielle Mandelkow, Cait Larsen, Erica Westfield Pledge of Allegiance Mission Statement Approval of Meeting Agenda Motion: Tina Duerkop Second: Cait Larson Motion Carries 4/0
II.	<b>Public Comments</b>	Open No Public Comments No Public Attendees
III.	<b>Conflict of Interest</b> <i>Perry Sekus, Chair</i>	Conflict of Interest Review None Presented
IV.	<b>Consent Agenda</b> <i>Perry Sekus, Chair</i>	<b>Consent Agenda:</b> January 27th, 2026 Annual Meeting Minutes <i>Motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented.</i> Motion: Perry Sekus Second: Tina Duerkop Motion Carries 4/0
V.	<b>Board Policy Review and Adoption</b> <i>Perry Sekus, Chair</i> <i>Michelle Sturm, Executive Director</i>	<b>First Reading</b> <a href="#">Student Behavior Expectations</a>  <b>Final Reading</b> March 23rd, 2025 Board Meeting

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**VI. Business of the Board**

**Finance**

*Joseph Sovine, EdFinMN*

**Finance Update**

Due to overpayment at the beginning of the school year, the state will be withholding some funds coming up.

The Financial Committee and the Creekstone School Board have been aware of this and have been making budget cuts and financial decisions in preparation.

*Motion to accept January Financial Statement as presented.*

Motion: Tina Duerkop

Second: Cait Larson

Motion carries 4/0

**Governance**

*Perry Sekus, Chair*

*Dr. Michelle Sturm,*

Executive Director/Head of School

**Governance Update**

**Administration Report & Updates**

*Dr. Michelle Sturm,*

Executive Director/Head of School

**Report and Updates**

A different approach to budgeting for future school years.

New food service connection at RWPS.

*Danielle Mandelkow,*

Director of Special Education

**Report and Updates**

FastBridge summary and highlights

Recent student behavior response incident and all-staff follow-up meeting

*Elissa Behnke,*

Director of Montessori

**Report and Updates**

Guest Presenter: Anika, Children's House Teacher's Assistant who has recently completed the Primary Overview at Montessori Center of Minnesota (MCM)

*Katelyn Reynolds,*

Director of Operations

**Report and Updates**

Enrollment updates/looking forward into next year

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**VII. Authorizer**

*Dr. David Peterson, MOChA Managing Director*

**Comments**

Education ought to change you as a person (inspired by Anika's talk)

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**VIII. Adjournment**

*Tina Duerkop, Secretary*

**Recap Action Items:**

Strategic Plan Meeting: April, Date TBD, 2 hours in the evening

Next Meeting Date(s): Regular Board Meeting Monday, March 23rd 2026

Motion to Adjourn: Perry Sekus

Second: Tina Duerkop

Motion Carries: 4/0

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