



# Apple Playschools Board Meeting Agenda

Date & Time: 10.17.2023 (5:45p - 7:30p) | Location: Ann Arbor District Library Westgate Meeting Room B

Attendance: Etta Heisler, Lilly Connett, Ricky LaFosse, Katie Piper, Jeff Wilkerson, Brittnai Murillo, Nick Baldus, Leah Jones.

Time (EST)	Topic	Who	Key Discussion Points	Decision to be made	Follow-up needed	Assigned	Deadline
5:50	Good News/Problems We've Solved	Everyone	<p>Etta and Brittnai shared a fundraising print mailer went out from printer without corrections or notes from APS staff. Working on a solution.</p> <p>Jeff shared they solved site expansion need for additional survey work.</p>				
5:55	Vote to approve September minutes Other Housekeeping Items	Everyone	<p>Website updated with new board member info and board minutes.</p> <p>Board Recruitment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved and notified two new board members that need onboarded.</li> <li>• Etta spoke to prospective board member Gina from the community; Etta and Katie will follow up with a formal interview.</li> </ul>	<u>Unanimously voted to approve September Board Meeting Minutes.</u>			
6:00	Board Report Review	Jeff & Etta	<p>Expansion Grant Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff and expansion architect think we are nearly done with revisions on plans with the city.</li> <li>• APS held the "Citizen Participation Meeting" on 10/12, as required by the plan review process. Sent out 1,200 postcards inviting neighbors.</li> <li>• IFF consulting team will be conducting site tours at all three locations on Wednesday, 10/18, with kickoff meeting to the Feasibility Analysis project.</li> </ul> <p>Grant Funding Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brittnai and Etta submitted grant requests totalling \$115,000 in past month</li> </ul>				

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APS received a \$10,000 gift in general operating support</li> </ul>				
6:00	Financial Review and Scenario Planning	Nick	<p>Reviewed APS FY24 Financial Contingency /Option Planning and Timeline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed rationale for the financial situation and projected funds, cash and budgeted funds</li> <li>• Key reasons for financial picture compared to other programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Earlier financial models (previous to 2021) depended on balancing the budget by paying the staff less.</li> <li>○ Balance of Infant and toddler enrollment to preschool enrollment is too high; most npos' in AA do not offer infant and toddler enrollment.</li> <li>○ Enrollment has changed from mostly PT to FT, requiring more staff to cover kids for longer days. Majority of contracts are now 8:30 - 5:30, 4-5 days per week.</li> <li>○ Most larger preschools offset overhead costs with school age care (after school or camp). Another area to focus future expansion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Nick and APS staff reviewed every potential lever that can be pulled in APS' power to improve the financial situation for 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Won't touch teacher salaries</li> <li>○ Working on goal to cut \$60k in General &amp; Admin costs</li> <li>○ Only program that charges separate rates for infants and toddlers (versus tier at 12 months) since ratios are the same</li> <li>○ Exploring increasing summer camp spots</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reviewed proposed changes or options for consideration.</li> <li>• Conducted scenario analysis amongst all board members with each person sharing comments, questions and concerns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Discussed comparisons to other area</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>Think about ways board members can be available to family members; best way to share message with families. Want to be careful about messaging of pairing expansion and tuition increase; consider call to action for families to channel wider concern at the state house.</p>		

			<p>daycare providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Discussed impact of infant/toddler alignment<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Impact of infant/toddler alignment is \$96,106 in 2024</li><li>○ Approx 1/3 of APS families would be impacted based on current ages, and many have siblings</li><li>○ One option would be to announce 15% increase, share that we need to adjust toddler additional 16% and request families make a pledge to pay money so that increase does not disproportionately impact toddler infant/toddler families</li><li>○ Alumni families have been solicited and foundations reached out to in order to find this money from other sources</li><li>○ Discussed serious concerns including the reality that the impact may cause number of people to rethink days or leave entirely</li><li>○ Reviewed data from spring community census, which included nearly all of the families in the community, at APS vast majority of families reported 11 - 20% of household income going towards daycare; APS received fewest number of scholarship requests in 2023</li><li>○ Discussed ways to limit the loss for families:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Remove contract change fees</li><li>■ Expand scholarship/tuition assistance</li></ul></li><li>○ Talked about the difficulties of the timeline to make the change</li><li>○ Discussed whether this change can be made legally given recently signed 2023-2024 contracts. APS is working with local atty pro bono to review the situation and provide guidance</li></ul></li><li>● Discussed context of daycare systems:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Reported 65% of daycare centers in</li></ul></li></ul>				
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

			<p>Washtenaw and Livingston County are facing decision like this</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There is an advocacy effort to be made by APS and APS families</li> <li>○ The expenses that have strained resources most have gone directly to teachers, roughly at the cost of \$100k/year annually for every dollar raise given</li> <li>● Motion to approve scenario #1 with more information to come re messaging about infant/toddler assistance that will be approved by the board.</li> </ul>				
7:30	Adjourn						