

DATE: April 16, 2026



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

Facilitator: Rachel Buonaiuto

Meeting Minutes: Emily Cochran

BOARD MEMBERS / ATTENDEES PRESENT (present noted in bold):

David DiCiccio

Vivian Ricketts

Rachel Buonaiuto

Katie Cimet

Alexandria Carlson

Jill Boodry

Barbara Carlson

Lorena Galvez

Kelsey Schaulsohn

Emily Cochran

John Rayla

Verna Krishnamurthy

Tony Gardner

Valerie Dupell

Kim Baldasaro

Natalie Bauer

Daniel Acker

Parent/Community/Staff (Non-Board) Attendees: Evan Merck and Anne Dugan

Call to order, 7:03pm

Public Comment

- Open to Members of Corporation only
- No comments

Board Ice Breaker

Motion to approve March, 2026 meeting minutes

Motion: John

Second: Kelsey

In Favor: All

All in Favor. None opposed.

Development Update [Anne / Jill / Kelsey]

- Debrief and discussion of Gala, including Board feedback on the experience
 - Highlights include seeing alumni families, being in the space, seeing the teachers
 - Board will work on writing thank you notes to sponsors and those that donated

auction items.

- Homecoming
 - We are shifting to focus on having just one event. Will have a homecoming, likely on Sat Oct 3rd – food and beverages stations in classrooms to encourage people to move around and see the space.
 - Potentially thinking about a homecoming t-shirt competition and maybe a yearbook. Thinking about activities for kids.
- Teacher Appreciation Lunch – May 7th
 - Working on sign up for items to bring or helping with set-up and break-down.
 - Room parents will be sending out information
- Teacher / Board Dinner
 - June 10th. Looking at venues, including NARA, but also looking into different options
 - Thinking about teacher gifts – will be asking the teachers to get ideas

Finance [David]

- YTD through March is looking good – ahead of budget, which is positive to report. This is mainly due to development work, anonymous gift, and from EEC grants (about \$10k / month).
- Discussion around potential for Rockland investment manager to come to upcoming meeting to discuss investments, potentially June meeting.
- Will be moving into budget setting and approval in the coming months.

Staff Liaison Report [Viv/Val]

- All staff that went to the auction had a great time
- Some teachers joined a workshop about clay
- Art show prep is underway across classrooms
- Educator conference (that will be at ITC) coming up in May, which different groups will be presenting at
- Kim came and led a workshop with the staff last week – focused on building resilience in young children – the Board expressed interest in opening this up to the broader community.

Director's Report [Barbara]

- Staff PD
 - Clay workshop was held last Sat morning – another material to teach with and extend children's learning.
 - Staff are excited to begin attending conferences again soon.
 - Early Childhood Education Workshop being held on May 16th at ITC – looking forward to hosting this event. 7 groups of teachers presenting at the experience.
- Art show happening on May 1st, which we are excited about.
 - Holly, our music teacher, will be joining us.
- Enrollment
 - We have seen some reduction in hours of children as contracts have gone out, which does have an impact on tuition, but is something we normally tend to see when contracts go out.
 - Had originally talked about toddler II being a group of 12 instead of 9 – have opted to enroll two part time children and 9 full time. Will result in us staffing that room with 4 teachers instead of 5.
 - Have one full time opening in toddler III.

- Staffing
 - This year we were fully staffed and plan to be for next year.
 - Have two retirements upcoming and have posted a lead teacher position and had an internal candidate apply and offer was extended and accepted.
 - This leaves a teaching position open
 - Have a PS teacher that will be moving to be part-time, so this leaves a position open in PS.
 - Interviewed three strong candidates for our openings, feeling optimistic and hoping to share more soon.

Adjournment

Motion to close the session at 9:00pm

Motion: Val

Second: Viv

In Favor: All

All in Favor. None opposed.