

**Subject:** Fwd: Finance Committee  
**From:** zielinskil@mokena159.org  
**Date:** 9/27/2023, 11:15 AM  
**To:** Eric Bush <bushe@mokena159.org>

I found this in my emails. This was sent to her in June. So proof something was sent.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** zielinskil@mokena159.org  
**Date:** June 8, 2022 at 10:46:59 AM CDT  
**To:** Kelli MacMillan <kellimacm@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Eric Bush <bushe@mokena159.org>  
**Subject:** Re: Finance Committee

Good Morning Kelli,

Thank you for your patience's. Below is information on the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee is a special committee of the Board of Education. The Finance Committee was established in the 2017-2018 school year by Jennifer Riedl, who was the Board President at that time. The District had just welcomed a new Chief School Business Official in Dr. Teri Shaw as well as three new Board members. Mrs. Riedl felt that she and others on the Board could benefit from having more time to get information to make informed decisions regarding financial matters.

In the time since then the Finance Committee has met to discuss the expenditure of the referendum proceeds on school infrastructure projects, the budget, transportation funding and expenditures, technology purchases, and other special topics. The Finance Committee takes no action on any projects or expenditures; they only serve to provide feedback to the entire Board. The Finance Committee chairperson, who is a member of the Board, sets the agenda of the Finance Committee meetings and provides a report to the Board of Education at public meetings.

The committee members have been a mix of Board members, administrators, community members, teachers, and classified staff. Two Board members are appointed to the Finance Committee at any given time, but oftentimes there can be 4 or 5 Board members that regularly attend the meetings. One or two community members are selected for the committee, and generally these individuals have backgrounds in areas related to finance. The Board President makes all committee appointments unless specifically stated otherwise. The committee meetings are all open meetings. All documents provided to the committee are published in BoardBook for any member of the public to view.

The Finance Committee does not have its own set of policies or bylaws. Board Policy 2:150 governs all Board Committees, including the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee complies with the Open

Meetings Act in publishing agendas and minutes.

At this time the Finance Committee has two community members; this has been typical of the committee in the past. We are not currently seeking additional members for this committee. Should the need for members arise in the future it will be opened to all members of the Mokena 159 community in the interest of transparency. Your interest in the committee is noted and we are grateful for your willingness to serve.

We hope you have a wonderful day!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Zielinski

**From:** Kelli MacMillan <kellimacm@gmail.com>

**Date:** June 7, 2022 at 8:13:24 PM CDT

**To:** zielinskil@mokena159.org, Eric Bush <bushe@mokena159.org>

**Subject:** Re: Finance Committee

Good evening Mrs. Zielinski and Mr. Bush,

Following up again in these questions regarding the Finance committee. I am trying to remain patient but it's now been 4 weeks. It's starting to feel like either you can't or won't answer my questions.

I think it would be helpful and courteous if you can at least respond and provide some insight into the reason for delay and an estimate for when you will have the information? How has this committee been run in the past? Are you seeking out community members to serve next year now like in the past?

I appreciate your time and the work you do for all of our students.

Thanks in advance,  
Kelli MacMillan

Sent from my iPhone

On May 31, 2022, at 5:14 PM, Kelli MacMillan <KELLIMACM@gmail.com> wrote:

Good afternoon,

Checking in again on this request for information. It has been three weeks, what is the reason for the delay?

Thanks,  
Kelli MacMillan

Sent from my iPhone

On May 20, 2022, at 1:33 PM, zielinskil@mokena159.org wrote:

Good Afternoon Kelli,

Thank you for your email. The Board of education is looking into this matter. Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Zielinski

On May 19, 2022, at 9:36 PM, Kelli MacMillan <kellimacm@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Mr. Bush and Ms. Zielinski,

Just checking back again on this. Can you please provide any insight as to why the delay? I don't understand where we are with this request.

Thanks in advance, I appreciate your time and the work you do for our students.

Kelli MacMillan

Sent from my iPhone

On May 17, 2022, at 10:34 PM, Kelli MacMillan <KELLIMACM@gmail.com> wrote:

No Mr. Bush, Dr. Shaw referred me to Ms. Zielinski as chair of the committee, and yourself.

These are the questions that remain unanswered:

I am looking for board policies that govern the finance committee. More specifically, can you provide me documentation that details how the finance committee is run, works, how and when members are selected, etc.

Per my original email, I would like to serve on the committee this coming year.

Please let me know,  
Kelli MacMillan

On May 17, 2022, at 12:56 PM, Eric Bush <bushe@mokena159.org> wrote:

Kelli - I heard you talked with Dr. Shaw yesterday regarding your finance related questions. Did you get answers for all of your questions?

Regards

Eric Bush

On Mon, May 16, 2022 at 9:25 AM Kelli MacMillan <[kellimacm@gmail.com](mailto:kellimacm@gmail.com)> wrote:

Good morning Dr. cohen and Mr. Bush,

Just checking back with you on this request.

Thanks,  
Kelli MacMillan

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 10, 2022, at 6:38 PM, Kelli MacMillan <[KELLIMACM@gmail.com](mailto:KELLIMACM@gmail.com)> wrote:

>

>

> Good evening Dr. Cohen and Mr. Bush,

>

> I would like to inquire about the Finance Committee. Can you point me in the direction of where I might review the board policy(ies) that govern the Finance Committee? Unfortunately I wasn't able to make the meeting yesterday, we got a new puppy last night that kept me away :).

>

> I read that this time last year that you were looking for community participants on the Committee and I wanted to formally submit my interest. I am not sure how it all works which is why I was looking for board docs to read over but wasn't able to find any.

>  
> Just let me know when you get a chance. Have a good night.  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Kelli MacMillan

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