



Corporate Governance in Montessori Schools

Today & the future
by Kris Trott

Balancing Act...



- School's Today
- Complex Environment
- So many stakeholders
- Board member, parent, staff or all 3?
- Conflict of interest

Montessori School



- Montessori Culture & the Business Manager
- How is it different from other schools for the Business Manager?



- ◉ Role of Business Manager, Company Secretary or other position
- ◉ Balance of pedagogical and financial outcomes
- ◉ Financial Reporting – clear and transparent

Business Manager's role includes



- Optimise Performance
- Business Manager as company officer

Corporate Governance

- Who is an officer of the company/school?
- Common Law duties
 - > Duty of Care (don't be lazy)
 - > Skills and diligence (don't be stupid and do your homework)
 - > Duty to act honestly (don't lie)
 - > Fiduciary Duty (Play Fair)
 - > Whistleblower protection – Why?
- Important to understand good governance



Company Secretary



- Mere servant – minutes taker
- Today - governance professional
- New areas: Risk management, delegation of authority, compliance register
- Further Training

What is changing?



- Schools are becoming more professional
- Aligned to accepted standards of corporations
- Parents still have a role to play but not always best on the Board

Business Manager's future



- Understand Governance
- Further training – CSA, AICD, other.
- Collaborate with other Business Managers & the Association
- Tool box, global emails (Share ideas), political lobbying, increase profile of Montessori.
- Look outside the Montessori schools – what are other schools doing that are great ideas?
- Network

Thank you

- This is why we do it!!
- Health Montessori Schools =
Great future benefit for our kids!



Thank you....Kris Trott