OSHKI OGIMAAG CHARTER SCHOOL



PO Box 320, Grand Portage, MN 55605 (218) 475-2112 www.oshkiogimaag.org

Regular School Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2024

The mission of Oshki Ogimaag Community School is to create a learning environment of excellence based upon traditional teachings. Rooted in Anishinaabe language and culture we will prepare students through hands-on, community-based projects to be lifelong learners that reach their personal and academic potential; preserve the Anishinaabe language and culture; and contribute to the wellness of future generations.

1.0 Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call of Board Members, Quorum Declaration:

1.1 Call to Order: 4:41pm.

1.2 Board Members Present: Patty Winchell-Dahl, John Morrin, Agatha Armstrong, Joanne Czeswik, Jeana Van Dyne, ex-officio Cherie James. Board Members Absent: Tina Gatzke.

Community Members Present: Pam Zahn (OOCS Business Manager), Yanne Spry (OOCS Administrative Assistant), Kristen Lindenmuth (parent/potential board member).

- **2.0 Reading of the Mission Statement by:** Joanne Czeswik.
- 3.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest: No conflicts declared.
- **4.0 Community Comment:** Ms. Kristen Lindenmuth expressed intention to join the board. Board members introduced themselves to her. Ms. Lindenmuth introduced herself. Ms. Zahn introduced herself. Ms. Winchell-Dahl explained the duties and commitment as a board member. Ms. Lindenmuth commented on the new playground. Director James shared that the first week of school went well. Inquiry on the lost healthy snack funding led to a discussion on school food service.
- **5.0** Approval of Agenda: Ms. Van Dyne moved to approve the agenda with two additional items. Motion seconded by Mr. Morrin. The motion passed unanimously.

(Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Czeswik). Discussion on adding COVID Policy Review as agenda item 11.5. Discussion on adding Appointment of Kristen Lindenmuth to the Board as agenda item 11.6.

- **6.0** Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from August 21, 2024: Ms. Armstrong moved to approve Meeting Minutes from August 21, 2024. Motion seconded by Ms. Czeswik. The motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Mr. Morrin, Ms. Van Dyne).
- **7.0 Mission and Vision: Student Outcomes Discussion:** discussion on student performances on tests (lower in the fall and better in the spring), determine the causes, how to best support students (better test environment, better rest, hunger free, parent support/involvement).
 - **7.1 Director's Report:** Director James shared details on items on her report. Discussion on Indigenous People's Day Celebration, having a small community gathering, creating a menu, using ingredients harvested from the garden, potluck.
 - **7.2 Formative Environmental Education Evaluation & 7.3 EE Report:** Ms. Van Dyne explained that the only indicator not being met last year was for nature journaling, shared new goals for this year (recycling, invasive species), teachers are on track of meeting all this year's EE goals.
 - **7.4 Assistant Director/SpEd Coordinator Report:** Ms. Winchell-Dahl would like to know the start of the IEP test.
 - **7.5 Classroom Teacher Reports:** Discussion on classroom names, support provided for teachers (preparation, supplies, new curriculum) while watching the budget closely, restarting reading with elders and encouraging the kids with reading (age & skill appropriate books, more coordination with the elders).
- 8.0 Financial Reports: OOCS Business Manager, Pam Zahn presented August financial reports and gave explanations on Bank Reconciliation Worksheet Report, Outstanding Payments, Receipt Listing with Detail by Deposit, Check Register, Journal Entries, Cashflow Forecast. Ms. Zahn gave an update on the audit. She sent them the final entries and expected the audit to wrap up soon after. She also strongly recommended keeping Miller McDonald as our auditor due to the school auditor shortage.

- **8.1 Ms. Czeswik moved to approve Finance Reports.** Motion seconded by Mr. Morrin. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Van Dyne).
- **8.2 Ms.** Armstrong moved to approve the Toshiba Contract. Motion seconded by Ms. Van Dyne. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Mr. Morrin, Ms. Czeswik). Director James explained that Toshiba offered a better rate compared to the other company.
- **9.0 Policy and Procedure Discussion: Ms. Winchell-Dahl motioned to move to table policy and procedure discussion.** Motion seconded by Ms. Armstrong. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Mr. Morrin, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne). Discussion about lice policies. The Board agreed to table the section.
- **10.0** Personnel Discussion: Ms. Winchell-Dahl motioned to approve all hirings of all the new staff. Motion seconded by Ms. Van Dyne. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Mr. Morrin, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Armstrong).

11.0 Board Development Discussion:

11.1 Email, October Board Meeting

- **11.2** Reflection on Workshop Week Training with John Morrin & Travis Novitsky. Ms. Winchell-Dahl recommended adding cultural elements during the staff days. Discussion on weekly silent sustained reading and the book The Cultural Toolbox. **11.3** Discussion on Indigenous People's Day Celebration. Already discussed in item 7.1.
- **11.4 Parent Board Member Recruitment.** Discussion on recruiting parents and changing/amending the regulations. Ms. Armstrong will follow up with her lobbyist about amendments specific to reservations.
- **11.5 Covid Policy Review.** Discussion on COVID policies and protocol. The Board recommended the school to have one in place soon in anticipation of the colder months.
- 11.6 Appointing Kristen Lindenmuth to the Board: Ms. Czeswik motioned to approve appointing Kristen Lindenmuth to the OOCS Board conditional to passing the background check. Motion seconded by Mr. Morrin. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Van Dyne).

12.0 Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Van Dyne at 6:23pm. Motion seconded by Mr. Morrin. The motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Armstrong).

| Yentrianne Spry | 10/4/2024 | |
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| Yastrianne Spry | Date | |
| (Administrative Assistant – Notetaker) | | |