



Oshki Ogimaag Community School

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.

Special School Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2024

- 1.0 **Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call of Board Members, Quorum Declaration:**
 - 1.1 Call to Order: 4:43pm
 - 1.2 **Board Members Present:** Patty Winchell-Dahl, Joanne Czeswik, Jeana Van Dyne, Tina Gatzke, ex-officio Cherie James. **Board Members Absent:** John Morrin (excused), Agatha Armstrong (excused)
Community Members Present: None
- 2.0 **Reading of the Mission Statement by:** Joanne Czeswik
- 3.0 **Declaration of Conflict of Interest:** No conflicts declared.
- 4.0 **Community Comment:** Discussion of Indigenous Peoples' Day Feast, excellent local foods served, many foods planted, harvested and prepared by students, participants enjoyed drumming, dancing and speakers at the celebration.
- 5.0 **Approval of Agenda; Ms. Van Dyne moved to approve the agenda.** Motion seconded by Ms. Gatzke. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne, Ms. Gatzke).
 - 5.1 **This Special Meeting was scheduled as there was not a quorum present for the 10/15/23 Regular Board Meeting.** Special Meeting notice posted at OPCS, Community Bulletin Board, OPCS Newsletter, Website, OPCS Facebook, and OPCS newsletter post was shared via GPAll and via Boreal community news media.
- 6.0 **Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from September 18, 2024. Ms. Czeswik moved to approve Meeting Minutes from September 18, 2024.** Motion seconded by Ms. Van Dyne. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne, Ms. Gatzke).
- 7.0 **Mission and Vision Student Outcomes -** Discussion of new curriculum, Environmental Education Goals (phenology board, recycling goals, nature journals, mystery plant activity. Discussion that Ms. Van Dyne will bring the Phenology Book next Board meeting. Discussion of joy and enthusiasm conveyed in teacher reports of classroom experiences. Discussion of teacher prep time (25 minutes in the morning, 30 minutes in the afternoon, and 1 hour after dismissal for an 8 hour work day), discussion of professional development and administrative team workflow.

Discussion of Ms. Gatzke taking on teaching duties in 2nd grade, with Ms. James providing additional social studies lessons related to local history. Ms. Czeswik, has an

- active teaching license and offered to sub and/or provide additional classroom support. Discussion of search for additional teacher, and housing options for potential candidates.
- 8.0 Approval of September Financial Reports. Ms. Czeswik moved to approve September Financial Reports.** Motion seconded by Ms. Gatzke. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne, Ms. Gatzke).
- 9.0 Policy and Procedure.** Discussion of Head Lice Policy, no nit policy recommended by health nurse.
- 9.1 Ms. Van Dyne moved to approve Head Lice Policy.** Motion seconded by Ms. Czeswik. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne, Ms. Gatzke).
- 9.2 Board review of Ex-Officio Conflict of Interest Statement.**
- 10.0 Personnel Discussion:** Discussion of Charlene James taking on the Cultural Liaison position after the position was vacant for over two years. Ms. Gatzke and Ms. Van Dyne interviewed and hired Charlene James. Ms. Gatzke will be the supervisor of Charlene James. The Cultural Liaison will also provide additional support to classrooms and supervision during lunch and recess.
- 10.1 Ms. Winchell-Dahl moved to waive the Nepotism Policy in regards to Charlene James.** Motion is seconded by Ms. Van Dyne. Motion passed unanimously (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne, Ms. Gatzke).
- 10.2 Ms. Van Dyne moved to approve the new hire of Charlene James.** Motion is seconded by Ms. Czeswik. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne, Ms. Gatzke).
- 10.3** Discussion of staffing and how the new team is working out. Reports that the staff is working well together and new team members have a great deal to offer the school and all staff members have been wearing many hats and helping where needed.
- 11.0 Board Development.** Discussion of Osprey Wilds Notice of Deficiency Status Update.
- 11.1 Ms. Gatzke moved to update the OOCs Board Onboarding program to reflect the requirements in updated 2024 MN Statute §124E.07, Subd. 7.** Motion is seconded by Ms. Winchell-Dahl. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne, Ms. Gatzke).
- 11.2 Discussion In regards to complaint #4, on the 05/08/24 Notice of Deficiency alleging that serial communication between Board members of less than a quorum occurred.** OOCs Board asserts no official board communication occurred using telephone calls, emails, texts, or other technology. No response to this requirement was requested on the 05/08/24 Notice of Deficiency. OOCs Board confirms that this requirement has been communicated, discussed at length, and understood by all Board members.
- 11.3 Discussion of Protocols in Place for Closed Meetings:** There is a recording device designated for the sole purpose of audio recordings of Closed Meetings. All Closed Meetings will be recorded in full. The Board Secretary will ensure

recording takes place. If the Board Secretary is not present, the Board Chair will maintain responsibility that the Closed Meeting is recorded on the designated device. All Closed Meetings will be recorded in full without without pausing or stopping the device. The device will be kept on-site at OOCS, in a locked file cabinet that OOCS Director and Assistant Director have access to, the device will not leave OOCS. Copies of recording will be made on flash drives or other technology when responses to data requests are required. Flash drives or other technology to send copies of the recording will be kept at OOCS regularly to ensure the ability of timely responses to data requests.

- 11.4 Discussion that:** Board members present at the February 21, 2024 meeting believe that the February 21, 2024 audio recording was paused by a former Board member, with no ill intent, and no intent to delete or excise any part of the recording and that going forward as stated above, recordings of Closed Meetings will be on the audio device, and recorded in full, so that the time reflected in the minutes matches the recording and it is clear that the recording is complete, and has not been edited or redacted.
- 11.5 Discussion that:** The OOCS Board asserts that no editing or redactions occurred in regards to the audio recordings of the February 21, 2024 or February 27, 2025 meetings, prior to being provided to individual per data request.
- 11.6 Discussion that:** In regards to the February 27, 2024 meeting, an audio recording does exist and was provided to the individual per data request as reflected in the July 17, 2024 Board minutes. In regards to Zoom recordings, OOCS Board has no knowledge as to whether a Zoom recording of the February 27, 2024 ever existed. There is no such recording on the OOCS Zoom account. When OOCS reached out to Zoom, they stated they were not able to share if a recording of the February 27, 2024 meeting existed. Ms. Keyport would be the only individual who would have knowledge or access to the February 27, 2024 Zoom recording if it existed as she is the only individual who held access to the account information and was host to the meetings. In Keyport's response to OOCS Board legal counsel, Keyport claims she is unaware of whether or not she recorded the February 27, 2024 meeting via Zoom. Keyport is the only individual who could be responsible for the Zoom recordings.
- 11.7 Discussion from Board members that:** previous administration used personal accounts for school business and this contributed to lack of access and delayed access to new administration.
- 12.0 Strategic Planning Discussion:** Discussion that holding Strategic Planning after regular Board meetings may not be optimal. Discussion of what the Board would want in a new contract from Peter James, as Strategic Planning Consultant. Board discussion that they are looking for a plan that would include 3-5 areas that can be concentrated on, with measurable goals. Discussion of target areas being: Family Communication; Student Outcomes including academic performance and attendance; Staff Retention and Satisfaction. Discussion that while Policy and Procedure items are important, and there are some dictated by deadlines, the Board is prioritizing family communication,

student outcomes, and staff satisfaction/retention over policy at this point. Discussion that the Board is ready for a report outlining Strategic Plan from Peter James. Discussion of how Peter James is a good listener, has a wealth of experience, and has been a great support to the school over the years, and is a valuable consultant to work with. Discussion that prior to Peter James observing classrooms, Ms. James and Ms. Gatzke will provide Peter James with criteria for observation. Discussion that observations for the following day should be canceled with School Nutrition site visit and trainings during the day already happening. It was discussed that Board Chair Winchell-Dahl will reach out to Peter James to cancel classroom observations for the following day.

Discussion that Par Harman from Osprey Wilds will be conducting a site visit on October 29, 2024. Board Chair Winchell-Dahl expressed she will be available to meet with Mr. Hartman during his site visit.

- 13.0 Discussion of Annual Meeting:** Discussion that there will be pizza and salad served, and sides/desserts will be potluck. Discussion of Annual Meeting presentations. Discussion that it would be nice to have drumming and dancing at the Annual Meeting.
- 14.0 Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Czeswik at 6:26pm.** Motion seconded by Ms. Gatzke. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Van Dyne, Ms. Gatzke).


OOCS Board Secretary Signature

11/20/2024
Date

Oshki Ogimaag Community School Board Meetings are open to all. Oshki Ogimaag Community School greatly values the voices and perspectives of the families and community we serve. The Board will provide up to 15 minutes at the start of each meeting for public comment. The Board Chair may reduce or extend this time period and/or establish time limits on speakers to facilitate OOCS Board business. OOCS is authorized by Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center:

<https://ospreywilds.org/charter-school-division/>