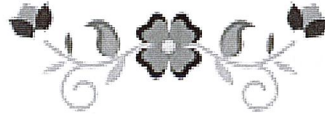




OSHKI
OGIMAAG

Oshki Ogimaag Community School



Board Meeting DRAFT MINUTES

Meeting Time: Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 4:30pm

Location: OPCS Conference Room

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

Meeting called to order at 4:38 by Tesha Dickenson, Chair

Board Members Present: Agatha Armstrong, Joanne Czeswik, Tesha Dickenson, John Morrin, Patty Winchell-Dahl, Kristin Lindenmuth, ex-officio Cherie James

A quorum was established.

Board member absent: Tina Gatzke

Community Members Present: Pam Zahn (OPCS Business Manager),

2.0 Reading of the Mission Statement: Tesha Dickenson

3.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest: No conflicts declared

4.0 Community Comment:

Discussion about students attending the Land Transfer ceremony. Students were on their best behavior and the event was a success.

Discussion about the status of the rabbit snaring book. The book is complete.

Discussion on how the book would be distributed. Request to hand one out at the American Indian Indian advisory event at University Minnesota Duluth.

Discussion about resuming reading with the elders

5.0 Approve Agenda (Action)

Joanne Czeswik made a motion to approve the agenda. Agatha Armstrong seconded. Ayes all

6.0 Approve Minutes from February 25, 2026 Regular Board Meeting (Action)

Tesha Dickenson made a motion to approve minutes February 25, 2026. John Morrin seconded. Ayes all..

7.0 Business and Finance Discussion

Business Manager Pam Zahn presented February Financial Reports, Discussed details of each report. Discussion of increase in SpEd Aid, budget revision for April, and our projected shortfall for the year.

7.1 Approve February Financial Reports (Action)

Tesha Dickenson, made a motion to approve the February Financial Reports. Patty seconded. Approved unanimously (voting aye: Agatha Armstrong, Joanne Czeswik, Tesha Dickenson, John Morrin, Kristin Lindenmuth)

8.0 Instructional Programming and Policy

8.1 Director's Report (Discussion)

Discussion about students attending the Land Transfer ceremony and the importance of teaching the history behind Grand Portage getting land back.

Discussion about the various grants we are working on and the challenge to prioritize spending grant money. Also about finding grant money for potential teacher hiring bonus and other creative recruiting strategies.

Discussion about the food program and challenges. Lengthy discussed ideas on how to cover food prep and other issues, including volunteers and new employees.

Discussion about students needing more 1:1 support and showing up to school tired.

Discussion on this year's focus professional development: lesson planning. Trying to modernize lesson planning. Teachers are open to learning, but need more shared teacher planning time.

Discussion on meeting with head start Lynn Sheils, with 6 students possibly coming to Oshki Ogimaag next year. Discussed last year's listening session and how it could be improved.

8.2 Assistant Director's Report (Discussion)

Ms. Gatzke was not in attendance, but provided a written report which the board reviewed.

9.0 Approve Revised Annual Report (Action)

Peter James, Cherie, and Tina completed work on the delinquent Annual Report. Joanne Czeswik made a motion to approve and Kristin Lindenmuth seconded the motion. Ayes all.

10.0 Adjournment: John Morrin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joanne, Ayes all at 6:38.

Submitted By: _____

Cherie James

Date: _____

May 6 2026