



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.

OOCS Board of Directors Special Board Meeting Minutes

73 Upper Rd, Grand Portage, MN 55605, OOCS Conference Room

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, June 15, 2026, 4:30pm

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

1.1 Call to Order: 4:31pm

1.2 Board Members Present:

Tesha Dickenson, Parent Member, Chairperson
Kristin Lindenmuth, Parent Member, Vice Chairperson
John Morrin, Community Member, Treasurer
Tina Gatzke, Teacher Member, Secretary
Agatha Armstrong, Community Member
Joanne Czeswik, Community Member
Patty Winchell-Dahl, Community Member
Cherie James, ex-officio, Director

Board Members Absent: n/a

Community Members and Visitors Present: Jaye Clearwater, Anna Deschampe, Daniel Deschampe, Dean Deschampe, Janis Deschampe, Larry Deschampe, Marideth Duhaime, Charlene James, Peter James (OOCS Operations Manager), Robert James, Roger James, Jeana Isaac, Franklin Manthey, Monica Morris, Lynn Sheils, Kat Sherer, Mary Sherer, Alyssa Spry, Yanne Spry, Pam Zahn (OOCS Business Manager)

2.0 Reading of the Mission Statement by: John Morrin

3.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest: No conflicts declared.

4.0 Community Comment: Two OOCS employees spoke during the meeting and communicated support for Director James and shared their feelings regarding the investigation. One OOCS current employee spoke about focusing on the students. One Community member spoke about their concerns regarding the Board. One former OOCS employee and parent of former OOCS students, spoke about concerns and in support of Director James. One Community member spoke in support of Director James. Two former OOCS employees spoke about their employment and concerns with OOCS processes.

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/>

5.0 Ms. Winchell-Dahl moved to approve agenda. Motion seconded by Mr. Morrin. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Dickenson, Ms. Gatzke, Ms. Lindenmuth, Mr. Morrin, Ms. Winchell-Dahl).

6.0 Review of investigation findings and consideration of recommendation from HR/Decision Maker concerning a personnel matter involving the Executive Director. Cherie James, the subject of the matter under consideration, has submitted a written request that the meeting be open pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05 and has waived any objection to the public discussion of personnel information pertaining to this matter. Accordingly, the Board considered this matter in open session. The Board received and discussed written copies of a summary report of investigation findings and a written recommendation from HR/Decision Maker. Board members received paper copies of the investigation summary and recommendation at the meeting, copies were collected by the Board Chair at the end of the meeting and destroyed post-adjournment.

The Board spoke at length regarding the summary of the investigative report and recommendation. The Board deliberated, sharing their perspectives regarding the summary of the report, the recommendation, school organization and leadership. The Board discussed different potential scenarios and possible implications of different options regarding following the recommendation, making a different decision, or not following the recommendation.

7.0 Next steps pending the outcome of the investigation: Mr. Morrin made a motion to not follow the EdVisions/HR recommendation to terminate Director James. Motion seconded by Ms. Armstrong. Motioned passed with 4 votes aye, and 3 abstentions. (Voting aye: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Dickenson, Mr. Morrin, Ms. Winchell-Dahl, Abstain: Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Gatzke, Ms. Lindenmuth).

- 8.0 Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Morrin at 6:02pm.** Motion seconded by Ms. Winchell-Dahl. Motion passed unanimously. (Voting aye: Ms. Armstrong, Ms. Czeswik, Ms. Dickenson, Ms. Gatzke, Ms. Lindenmuth, Mr. Morrin, Ms. Winchell-Dahl).

Tina Gatzke

06/17/26

OOCS Board Secretary Signature

Date