



## Oshki Ogimaag Community School Regular Meeting Minutes

**Date: November 17, 2021**

**Time: 4:44 P.M.**

**Place: Oshki Ogimaag Community School Conference Area**

- 0.0 No Public and Parent comments.
- 1.0 Call meeting to order 4:44 P.M.
- 2.0 Reading of Mission Statement, Yastrienne Spry.
- 3.0 Roll call with quorum present. Present: Carol Cleveland, Travis Novitsky, Erik Redix, Yastrienne Spry, and Patty Winchell-Dahl. Also present Carmen Keyport, Director and Jean Spry, Administrative Assistant (notetaker). Absent: John Morrin.
- 4.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Travis Novitsky to approve agenda items, reports, and minutes from October 20, 2021. Novitsky pointed out a typo and an error in the roll call for financial approvals (Novitsky was listed instead of Spry) in the minutes. Redix agreed to correct these typos. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl inquired about why there was nothing in the Professional Development section for Jeana Van Dyne. The Director agreed to follow up. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl also inquired about the mental health of our students due to COVID. The Director responded that overall students are adjusting and that there are resources (GP Human Services) for families if students are in distress. Redix agreed that our students are doing well overall and that much of the discussion in the media about mental health of students was middle and high school age students. Spry mentioned vaccination for children and the Director mentioned that students were sent home with vaccination pamphlets with available dates of vaccination. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl was excited for the visit of Diane Wilson, Dakota author, and that student taught her a few Ojibwe words. The Director noted that it was a very nice experience for all of our students. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 5.0 Motion by Yastrienne Spry, second by Travis Novitsky to approve Financial Expenditures & Revenues for October. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl inquired about expenditures on the Age to Age grant. The Director responded that the grant is being used for Native cultural projects and crafts which is reported to the funder (Northland Foundation). Cleveland-aye; Novitsky-aye; Spry-aye; Redix-aye; motion carried 4-0.
- 6.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Yastrienne Spry to approve Updated Budget 2021-22. Redix inquired about the change, and the Director responded it mostly reflected the staff bonuses. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl stated that the Board decided via emails that the Director should receive a bonus as well and applauded her efforts and all the staff. Cleveland-aye; Novitsky-aye; Spry-aye; Redix-aye; motion carried 4-0.
- 7.0 Motion by Yastrienne Spry, second by Carol Cleveland to approve resignation of Molly Libra as Paraprofessional. The Director reported that Libra worked one day and agreed to volunteer time without pay. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 8.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Carol Cleveland to approve resignation of Erin Lange, Special Education Teacher. The Director reported that Lange had accepted another position. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl suggested sharing special ed teachers with other schools in Cook County. Redix was extremely skeptical that other schools would want to share their teachers even if it saved them money. The Director noted that there is a special ed teacher

shortage nationally and that there is a regional housing shortage. The Director also noted that our needs are for a full time special ed teacher. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.

- 9.0 Motion by Travis Novitsky, second by Yastrienne Spry to approve Ojibwemowin benchmarks. Redix reported that we are not required to do benchmarks but that it was a good way to assess student learning and fulfill the mission of the school to revitalize the Ojibwe language. Redix reported that there is nothing new or different from what our students already learn. The “can-do statements” are based on ACTFL levels of language achievement and what students should know at the “beginning” and “intermediate” levels. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl was grateful that we will have a more standardized curriculum for Ojibwe and praised the work Redix did on this. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 10.0 Discuss Annual Meeting. The Director reported November 29 was the deadline for nominations for school board and that she has received zero nominations so far. The meeting will be held December 8 by Zoom.
- 11.0 Fall Student Assessment Update. The Director reported that the number of students testing at grade level or above stayed the same for math and increased by 2 students (5% increase) in reading. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl expressed dismay and frustration that our attendance numbers were not any better. Redix praised the efforts of the Director and Jean Spry in following up with parents every single morning. The Director reported she sends letters to parents of students with chronic tardiness. Redix clarified this was really a couple families with multiple students in the house. A spirited discussion ensued. Chairwoman Winchel-Dahl proposed certified mail to parents of students with chronic tardiness. Redix said that was absurd: it was just going to cost the school money and parents wouldn’t read it anyway. Chairwoman Winchel-Dahl argued that then we would know that the parents didn’t read it and could take action.
- 12.0 Board training: Chapter 18: *Book of Charter School Board* led by Patty Winchell-Dahl tabled until January meeting due to long meeting. The Director updated that Board that the teacher of the conflict resolution workshop would cost \$400 an hour. The board felt this was too expensive and asked the Director to look for a more reasonable workshop. The board would like it to be a joint workshop with the staff. The Director also pointed out to the Board the attachment in the materials from the Minnesota Department of Health regarding COVID recommendations.
- 13.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Travis Novitsky to adjourn at 6:14 P.M. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.

Annual Meeting December 8, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.