



**Oshki Ogimaag Community School
Regular Meeting Minutes**

Date: April 21, 2021

Time: 4:47 P.M.

Place: Oshki Ogimaag Community School Conference Area

Present: Carol Cleveland, Travis Novitsky, Erik Redix, Yastrienne Spry, and Patty Winchell-Dahl. Also present Carmen Keyport, Director; Jean Spry, Administrative Assistant (notetaker). Absent: John Morrin.

- 0.0 Erik Redix shared the comment of a parent who wished to remain anonymous who expressed confusion as to why there is school on May 24-25. The parent wondered why the last day of school was not May 21. Redix reminded the board that he was the lone dissent in approving the calendar last year based on this very issue.
- 1.0 Call meeting to order 4:47 P.M.
- 2.0 Reading of Mission Statement, Yastrienne Spry.
- 3.0 Roll call with quorum present.
- 4.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Yastrienne Spry, to approve agenda items, reports, and minutes from the March 17, 2021 meeting. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl and Novitsky noted that they were pleased that Grand Portage Human Services is coming to the school to talk about bullying prevention. Spry inquired about if there was any progress with student absenteeism due to the concerns in the Osprey Wild report last meeting. The Director reported that she was following up with specific families when the students miss the bus in the morning and trying to get those students to school. Redix noted that the revised job description for the Indian School-Home Liaison position can aid with this next year. Redix also noted that the board should think about recruiting strong candidates for this position in the community since the labor pool is so limited. The Director inquired if the position should be posted now and the board thought that was a good idea. The Director pointed out that another Osprey Wild will be doing an observation day via Zoom on Thursday, April 22. Redix pointed out that two of the teacher reports did not include the new "diversity or multi-cultural" category that the board had decided they wanted included at the last meeting. Redix noted that the one teacher that did include it did an excellent job of including the information the board was looking for. Redix noted that teachers are busy this time of the year and asked that next year teachers be made aware of what the board is looking for. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 5.0 Motion by Travis Novitsky, second by Carol Cleveland to approve Financial Expenditures & Revenues for February. Chairwoman Winchell-Dahl inquired about the IT supplies being overbudget. The Director responded that there was a Northland Foundation Grant that just came in for Chromebooks and she did include that update. Spry noted that we are again overbudget this month. The Director again reminded the board there are months in the year that the school has large surpluses such as in January when the impact aid is dispersed. Redix mentioned also that we have several hundred dollars in assets that can offset any small annual deficit that may or may not occur this year. Winchell-Dahl inquired about being over for the extra pay for the Special Ed teacher covering the 4-6 classroom. The Director responded that since we are not paying a 4-6 teacher paying the Special Ed teacher more actually saves the school quite a bit. Cleveland-aye; Novitsky-aye; Redix-aye; Spry-aye; motion carried 4-0.

- 6.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Yastrienne Spry to approve hiring of Mindy Jacobsen. The Director reported that Jacobsen accepted the offer and that she has an impressive credentials. Winchell-Dahl was glad that there will be some stability and consistency in the 4-6 classroom following the abrupt resignation of Nancy Dumas and the turnover the two years prior to Dumas. Winchell-Dahl inquired where she will be commuting from and the Director responded they will live in Lutsen and that she didn't seem concerned with the commute. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 7.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Carol Cleveland to approve 2021-22 calendar. The Director reported that the only change from last year is that she wanted classroom teachers to report school a week before the rest of the staff to set up classrooms. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 8.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Yastrienne Spry to approve Tiny Eye contract for 2021-22. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 9.0 Motion by Travis Novitsky, second by Carol Cleveland to approve Indigo contract for 2021-22. The Director reminded the Board that Indigo provides the Special Education Director. The Director noted that the Special Education Director works well with our Special Education teacher. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 10.0 Board training: Chapter 17: *Book of Charter School Board* led by Patty Winchell-Dahl. Before training got underway, the Board discussed a number of topics.
- Spry mentioned that Osprey Wild renewal being postponed until a year. The Director reported that we were supposed to go up for renewal next year (2021-22) but due to the unusual year for schools due to COVID, Osprey decided to postpone renewal until the following year (2022-23).
 - Spry inquired about the access to the yearbook for the Parent Committee. The Director responded that she has not heard back since she emailed the login credentials to the Parent Committee but will follow-up.
 - Spry noted that the new website look really good. The Board took a moment to bring it up on their phones and all agreed.
 - Winchell-Dahl asked the Director if she would like an elder to read to the 4-6 classroom. The Director stated that she is reading *The Brave* to the 4-6 classroom and she enjoys taking that time with the students. The Director stated the book is written by an author who was raised in California but has ancestry in Grand Portage and is about a special needs child at living at Fond du Lac and that the students are engaging with it.
 - Redix updated the group that he will work more on the grievance policy once the school year is done and will present at the June meeting.
- Winchell-Dahl reported that Chapter 17 discussed board evaluation. The author contended that Board training is a meaningful form of board evaluation. Redix questioned this, as it is not an assessment tool and it is always a self-evaluation: to Redix the Board does not go through a similar process of evaluation as the staff or the Director. Winchell-Dahl will present Chapter 18 at the May meeting.
- 11.0 Motion by Erik Redix, second by Travis Novitsky to adjourn at 6:09 P.M. The Director noted that the Grand Portage Education Department annual JOM award banquet (which honors all K-12 Indian students in Cook County including Oshki students) is usually the third Wednesday in May and that we may have a conflict if there is a banquet this year. Redix reported that at the April LIEC meeting (Cook County Schools Indian parent committee) that the JOM was discussed and it will be a drive through with awards and food. It was agreed to have the school board meeting the following week. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.

Next meeting May 25, 2021 at 4:30 P.M.