



Oshki Oigmaag Community School Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: February 16, 2023

Time: 4:42 P.M.

Place: Oshki Oigmaag Community School Conference Area

- 0.0 Public and Parent comment session. Deschampe inquired about school closure policy. Winchell-Dahl remarked that it's the Director's decision. However, parents can decide whether to send their kids to school or to keep them home. The student(s) would then be excused. The Director explained that when it comes to cold temperature closure, she aligns it with ISD 166's policies. Information on road conditions from the bus driver is also a guiding factor in her decision making.
- 1.0 Call meeting to order 4:42 P.M.
- 2.0 Reading of Mission Statement, Travis Novitsky.
- 3.0 Roll call with quorum present. Present: Jaye Clearwater, Daniel Deschampe, Travis Novitsky, and Patty Winchell-Dahl. Also, present Steven StandingCloud, Carmen Keyport, Director; Yastrienne Spry, Administrative Assistant (notetaker). Absent: John Morrin.
- 4.0 Motion by Novitsky, second by Deschampe to approve agenda items, reports, and minutes from January 19, 2023. Clearwater stepped away to attend conference with parents. The Director proudly announced that Monica Morris had passed Serve Safe certification. She also brought up a newspaper (Cook County News Herald) article covering our bus driver Larry "Fish" Deschampe. Novitsky and Deschampe talked about coverage of OOCS by ARD TV station (from Germany) which they thought as respectful. The Director shared how the presence of the TV crew impacted students in positive ways. Winchell-Dahl suggested for the link of the coverage to be posted on OOCS site. Novitsky suggested a revision to the minutes for agenda item 0.0 and 8.0, also the skipped agenda item (missing agenda 6.0).
Novitsky inquired whether anything specific should be discussed in regard to students' academic performance. Winchell-Dahl mentioned that it's covered in Tina Gatzke's report. Gatzke provided a very detailed report regarding the CBM math and reading scores she compiled from fall and winter on all students and how she is using those scores for math and reading interventions for the next several weeks. Winchell-Dahl expressed she is pleased with students' improvements. The Director explained the difference between Academic Performance and Fast Bridge results. Novitsky and Winchell-Dahl would like Tina Gatzke's email (regarding strategic planning) to board members be discussed in next meeting along with Fast Bridge results. The Director added that she will share other schools' strategic plans. She will also consult Pete James on open and close meeting policies. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 5.0 Motion by Deschampe, second by Novitsky to appoint Steven StandingCloud to the School Board. StandingCloud expressed his excitement for being on the board; to sharing and applying his experience and expertise. He was a board member in the past. He opined that the board and the school should focus more on math and reading and speculated that this has an impact on school's enrollment. He mentioned that incorporating service learning into the curriculum would benefit the school. He shared how his daughter likes to read and pumped up about learning at school. The Director mentioned that students who are struggling with reading and math are also struggling with attendance. She asked StandingCloud ideas on how to deal with those issues. Winchell-Dahl commented how attendance influence students' performance which skews the graphs. She's committed to keep working on finding solutions and hoping that StandingCloud could bring better ideas. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.

- 6.0 Deschampe nominated Winchell-Dahl as chair. Novitsky expressed his commitment to stay on the board until there's enough members.
- 6.1 Motion by Deschampe, second by StandingCloud to elect Patty Winchell-Dahl as Chair of the Board. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 6.2 Motion by Winchell-Dahl, second by Novitsky to approve Steven StandingCloud as Vice Chair of Board. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 6.3 Elect Secretary/Treasurer of Board is tabled.
- 7.0 Motion by Novitsky, second by Deschampe to approve financial expenditures & revenues for January. Clearwater stepped away to attend conference with parents. Deschampe made an inquiry about the school sign. Spry explained that it's in the work and that tomorrow the graphic designer will email her the finished product. Winchell-Dahl inquired about funding for the sign and whether funding is available to hire a consultant for strategic planning which could cost \$20k. The Director explained that funding is approved for Oshki sign. Winchell-Dahl inquired about \$600 in the food budget. The Director explained that it's allocated in case we would have any appliance repair. Winchell-Dahl asked StandingCloud about how closed meetings were being recorded in the past. StandingCloud replied that he doesn't recall there were any closed meetings. Novitsky shared his concern on poor lighting in the front of the school. The Director explained that our maintenance person is waiting for the weather to warm up to replace the bulbs. Winchell-Dahl made a recommendation to speak with the director of the community center about this and to speak with RTC. The Director said that she will discuss it with community center's director. Clearwater-away but in support; Deschampe-aye; Novitsky-aye; StandingCloud -aye; All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 8.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Novitsky to approve Financial Audit 2021-22. Due Dec 31st, 2022. StandingCloud inquired how the school finance is recorded. The Director explained that the school works with a finance company called cmERDC and hire an outside auditor (Miller McDonald). The Director mentioned that OW has been recommending that OOCs should hire as outside accountant or a business manager, but she hasn't had opportunity to research any companies yet. The Director will ask other charter schools about this which Winchell-Dahl supported. Novitsky suggested the school to practice compensating control (assigning two people to do a task) in response to OW's push for better internal control. The Director mentioned there is more separation since the school hired an administrative assistant. The more the administrative assistant can handle financial stuff, the better the separation would be. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 9.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Deschampe to approve 2021 Form 990. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 10.0 Discussion on OW (Osprey Wilds) Draft Renewal Evaluation and OOCs Response. Clearwater rejoined the meeting. Winchell-Dahl inquired about the Director's response letter. The Director informed the board that she's able to submit test scores to OW and felt positive that they responded to her letter. Winchell-Dahl remarked on Covid impact on the school and on staff retention which is widespread nationwide. The Director added that having a disproportionate number of special ed students greatly impact test scores. StandingCloud inquired on the frequency of OW visits; whether this is the first time that the Director was able to respond to their evaluation. The Director answered that they visit once a year and confirmed that this is the first time that she's able to respond. The Director then explained the role of OW as the school's authorizer. Winchell-Dahl commented that representatives from OW didn't spend adequate time on their site/school visits prior to fall 2022. The Director and Winchell-Dahl discussed their contention to OW's report due to the school's special circumstances. The Director shared that she's waiting for a response from OW (deadline was Feb, 6th).
- 11.0 Motion by Clearwater, second by Novitsky to accept Resolution of Concurrence/Nonconcurrence from Parent Committee. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 12.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Novitsky to approve Revised #806 Crisis Management Policy. Clearwater stepped away to attend conference with parents. The Director explained that this policy is not up to date. Winchell-Dahl inquired whether code words are still being used. The Director explained that 'going into lockdown' is being used instead. Winchell-Dahl inquired whether there's a training and that there should be

safety meetings and drills in partnership with the community center since Oshki shares the same building. The Director answered 'no.' Winchell-Dahl inquired on communication medium, the Director answered, 'radio and PA system on phones.' Winchell-Dahl inquired about the grieving policy. The Director replied that she hasn't reviewed it yet. Winchell-Dahl recommended a plan for the front desk personnel to handle a school shooter. Deschampe asked how the doors are locked and was answered by the Director. StandingCloud recommended to invite a trainer to come and train teachers and employees on dealing with a school shooter. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.

- 13.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Deschampe to approve Revised English Learner Plan of Service. Clearwater rejoined the meeting. The Director explained that this policy is another one that's not up to date. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 14.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Novitsky to approve Revised #534 Meal Charge Policy. The Director explained that this policy is also not up to date. Even though the school does not charge for meals, it is still a requirement to have this policy. Deschampe wondered whether the policy would still be required after universal free lunch is in place next year. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 15.0 Board training: Chapter 22: *Book of Charter School Board* by Patty Winchell-Dahl. Next month's training Chapter 24: *Ways Your Board Can Get In Trouble Without Even Trying*.
- 16.0 Motion by Standingcloud, second by Deschampe to adjourn at 6:24 P.M. All in favor – motion carried 4-0. Next meeting March 15, 2023 at 4:30 P.M.