



Oshki Ogimaag Community School Regular Meeting Minutes

Date: June 27, 2023

Time: 4:55 P.M.

Place: Oshki Ogimaag Community School Conference Area

- 0.0 No Public and Parent comments.
- 1.0 Call meeting to order 4:55 P.M.
- 2.0 Reading of Mission Statement, Patty Winchell-Dahl.
- 3.0 Roll call with quorum present. Present: Jaye Clearwater via Zoom, Daniel Deschampe, Travis Novitsky and Patty Winchell-Dahl. Steven StandingCloud joined at 5:03. Also, present Carmen Keyport, Director; Yastrianne Spry, Administrative Assistant (notetaker). Absent: John Morrin.
- 4.0 Motion by Deschampe, second by Novitsky to approve agenda and declaration of conflict of interest. The Director explained changes to the agenda format. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 5.0 Motion by Novitsky, second by Deschampe to approve minutes. Novitsky suggested a correction for items 4.0 and 8.0. Minutes revised. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 6.0 Discussion on director's report. StandingCloud joined the meeting at 5:03. Deschampe praised this year's fishing event as the most fun. The Director commented about the good turnout and that it increases every year. Winchell-Dahl said that she never put so much bait and never untangled so many fishing lines her whole life. Winchell-Dahl inquired about law changes and kindergarten teacher position. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 7.0 Motion by Deschampe, second by Novitsky to approve financial expenditures & revenues for May 2023. Winchell-Dahl – glad that Northland Fire came due to fires in the area. Winchell-Dahl – towing charge. The Director explained what happened with the school bus. Winchell-Dahl inquired whether Eugene Boshe will be willing to teach drumming next year. The Director thought so. Deschampe and Novitsky inquired about the length of the drumming lesson (how many months/weeks). Deschampe inquired about smudging; the Director answered that it's not practiced on a regular basis. Deschampe would like smudging to be incorporated into the routine. Winchell-Dahl and Clearwater agreed; they felt that would be a great way to start the day/week. Winchell-Dahl would like female students to participate in dancing and wondered whether Grand Portage Royalty might be interested in giving lessons. StandingCloud inquired about Miller McDonald; the Director answered. Deschampe inquired about the school's sign; the Director answered that Fossil is still working on it and that it's behind schedule. Clearwater-aye; Deschampe-aye; Novitsky-aye; StandingCloud -aye; All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 8.0 Motion by Novitsky, second by StandingCloud to approve budget 2023-2024. Winchell-Dahl inquired whether there are changes; the Director explained that it's similar with the previous year's; raises are budgeted; Indian Education fund is doubled. Winchell-Dahl inquired how the extra Indian Education fund can be spent; the Director explained that she's waiting for instructions. StandingCloud inquired whether financial services cost is included in the budget; the Director explained that except for the business manager fees, it's in the budget. Novitsky inquired whether the number of special ed students will also be higher; the Director explained that the number is based on SY 22-23 enrollment. Clearwater-aye; Deschampe-aye; Novitsky-aye; StandingCloud -aye; All in favor – motion carried 4-0.

- 9.0 Motion by Clearwater, second by Novitsky to approve hiring Jodi Hyrkas. The Director explained that Jodi Hyrkas agreed to teach kindergarten if the school is unable to find one in time. StandingCloud inquired on paraprofessional tasks and the Director answered. Board members shared a concern for her long commute from Thunder Bay. Clearwater felt that Jodi Hyrkas would be a good fit for the school; detailed how other teachers and the Director would respond to different scenarios of not having a kindergarten teacher. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 10.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Novitsky to approve charter school contract with Osprey Wilds July 2023 – June 2026. The Board discussed John Morrin’s absence. Winchell-Dahl inquired about new changes in the contract from the previous draft; the Director said no changes. She commented that the school should be able to meet contract demands and Clearwater agreed; commented on test scores improvement and persistent students’ tardiness. StandingCloud inquired on the test frequency, whether the contract should be switched to winter-to-winter for more favorable test scores; the Director explained that the current contract period gives the school the best numbers. Winchell-Dahl was pleased that Osprey Wilds site visits are longer and extensive. Deschampe suggested that Osprey Wilds’ site visits coincide with certain events (drumming, ricing, sugarbush) to better showcase the school. Winchell-Dahl inquired whether indicated areas of the contract are covered and ready to be submitted by the due date of June 30th; the Director confirmed. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 11.0 Motion by Clearwater, second by StandingCloud to approve Jan Lippitt agreement. The Director explained that her fees haven’t changed. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 12.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Novitsky to approve executive director job description. The Director explained the highlighted items added per recommendation from Erin Anderson in the last meeting. Winchell-Dahl asked how the Director would implement them. The Director would like to hire a contractor, possibly Pete James, to be a mentor. Novitsky suggested a revision towards the bottom of page two that should say ‘responsibly manages.’ All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 13.0 Motion by Novitsky, second by Clearwater to approve business manager proposal. The Director detailed the contractor’s credentials, explained her tasks and fees. Board members discussed proposed fees. The Director plans to negotiate some additional fees when extra services are needed in the future. All in favor – motion carried 4-0.
- 14.0 Discussion on present parent survey results. StandingCloud commented that he’d like the school to keep improving on the scores. Winchell-Dahl opined that other than child being treated fairly, and child’s teacher communicated enough questions, the rest looked great. Board members agreed that the turnout is great (10 out of 20 households). StandingCloud suggested that the school offer an incentive such as gift cards.
- 15.0 Discussion on strategic plan. Board members haven’t read the books yet. Spry inquired whether an audio version of the book is available. StandingCloud asked whether a time is set up. Winchell-Dahl is open to suggestion, to talking to someone and to hiring a facilitator to guide through the process. She’s planning on contacting a few people in the community; suggested the process to start when the new school year starts. Novitsky inquired whether it’s a requirement from Osprey Wilds; the Director answered that it’s suggested. StandingCloud recalled that Erin Anderson mentioned how broad the school’s mission statement was and that by having a more detailed strategic plan we would be able to measure some outcomes better. Winchell-Dahl opined that a strategic plan should be updated periodically to keep up with the changing world.
- 16.0 Motion by Novitsky, second by Deschampe to adjourn at 6.21 P.M. All in favor – motion carried 4-0. Next meeting August 16, 2023 at 4:30 P.M.