



## Oshki Ogimaag Community School Regular Meeting Minutes

**Date: March 15, 2023**

**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 4:42 P.M.
- 2.0 Reading of Mission Statement, Steven StandingCloud.
- 3.0 Roll call with quorum present. Present: Jaye Clearwater, Daniel Deschampe, John Morrin, Travis Novitsky, Steven StandingCloud and Patty Winchell-Dahl. Also present Carmen Keyport, Director; Yastrienne Spry, Administrative Assistant (notetaker); Erin Anderson from Osprey Wilds (OW).
- 4.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Morrin to approve agenda items, reports, and minutes from February 16, 2023. Winchell-Dahl made a remark about the absence of Waban trips. The Director explained that the students go on regular nature walks (including going to sugar bush) to replace Waban trips. Winchell-Dahl suggested reaching out to Trust Lands and others for help with the sugar bush which the Director agreed with and confirmed. Deschampe asked whether taps and bags are needed. The Director replied that the school has enough taps but will check on the bag's stock. Winchell-Dahl offered to be a back up driver when needed. The Board discussed recruiting new board members. The Director shared Erin's suggestion to recruit beyond the county line but within the state of Minnesota. Meetings can be attended via Zoom while the person is at a public place (i.e. a library) to meet the legal requirements. The Board discussed and shared stories about the visit from international journalists. Winchell-Dahl inquired whether the school is meeting EE goals. The Director explained that the students have been participating in activities that support EE goals. All in favor – motion carried 5-0.
- 5.0 Motion by Clearwater, second by Novitsky to approve financial expenditures & revenues for February. Winchell-Dahl was glad that the school bus got new tires; inquired about the Federal Impact Aid fund and Marzano Research, Covid Testing fund. The Director explained that the school has received the Impact Aid and is spending the Covid Testing fund to purchase cleaning supplies. Winchell-Dahl commented on the state's free lunch program for everyone and inquired how it'd affect the school since we already offered free lunch for everyone. The Director explained that the reporting will have to be adjusted accordingly. Clearwater commented that Monica Morris has been doing a great job cooking wonderful meals for the students. StandingCloud would like the board to put discussion on meeting OW standards for renewal on the agenda until those standards are met. He feels that the Board should be able to approve expenses needed to support students' needs. Clearwater-aye; Deschampe-aye; Novitsky-aye; StandingCloud -aye; All in favor – motion carried 5-0.
- 6.0 Elect Secretary/Treasurer of Board is tabled. Winchell-Dahl would like to nominate Jaye Clearwater but she declined due to work commitments as a teacher. Winchell-Dahl suggested using a recorder. StandingCloud recommended for this item agenda to be tabled. Winchell-Dahl agreed.
- 7.0 Motion by Novitsky, second by Deschampe to approve Renewal of CE at North Shore FCU. Winchell-Dahl wondered whether we could get a better interest elsewhere then inquired about the patronage reward. Clearwater explained what it is. Clearwater-aye; Deschampe-aye; Novitsky-aye; StandingCloud-aye; All in favor – motion carried 5-0.

- 8.0 Discussion on Renewal Evaluation & Contracting Process with OW. Anderson explained the renewal process. Exhibits F and G. StandingCloud inquired about how to better address/respond to OW's evaluation and feedback. Anderson assured that OW is open to conversations. Winchell-Dahl shared how OW Zoom workshops have been helpful to her as a novice. Anderson iterated that OW's job is holding schools accountable and to provide guidance. She suggested hiring an accounting firm to help with accountability. Winchell-Dahl felt that the Board should discuss it but it was discussed in the past and it might be advantageous. The Director was not willing to make the switch midway through the school year. Anderson suggested partnering with other organizations in the area, to connect with Red Lake. She stated that the non education parts are not hard to fix. The contracting deadline is June 30th. StandingCloud would like to include it in the strategic planning. Anderson mentioned that revisions of by laws and the school missions are allowed and can be incorporated as well. That the Board and the school need to discuss and make decisions on how to measure how well the school is meeting its mission goals. Winchell-Dahl thought that it's a good process for the school to go through. StandingCloud thought that the mission and vision should be updated before the contract is renewed. Anderson emphasized that goal setting is part of the contracting process and that the Board needs to allocate time to discuss it. Winchell-Dahl opined that while the goals are relevant, the school needs to work on accomplishing them. Anderson explained exhibit S. There are matters that will need to be resolved before the new contract is signed on June 30th and there are matters that need to be resolved by the time you go through renewal again. Winchell-Dahl was satisfied with the renewal process and the site visit this time. Previously visits didn't allow for the school to present the true pictures of what it actually does. Anderson suggested the school do more to promote itself. People need to know of the great things that the school is doing that are not offered by other schools. Winchell-Dahl is in agreement. Anderson stated that the school excels in culture and needs to work on being academically relevant. Winchell-Dahl pointed out that without a strong cultural foundation (knowing who you are and where you come from) it'd be hard to excel academically. StandingCloud inquired whether the Director is responsible to formulate the revisions required and the board would then review them. The Director pointed out that she can't update the mission and the vision of the school. StandingCloud wondered whether the revision of the school mission and vision should be spread out. Anderson suggested the Board allocate time in the future meeting to discuss it. StandingCloud inquired about the goal setting part prior to strategic planning. Anderson explained that setting new goals is part of the contracting process. However, the current goal can be rolled over to the next contract. Winchell-Dahl thought that the Board and the School need to look at better ways to reach our goals. She iterated that the focus should be on the contract renewal then continuously work on the strategic planning, to maybe set a goal once we hire a consultant and then, once completed, to review the strategic plan periodically. Clearwater inquired about the instructional row. Anderson explained that the purpose is to ensure that teachers will have appropriate professional development as needed and some school wide professional development to have consistent systems and structures across the building. StandingCloud expressed that by improving students' performance on top of our environment, cultural programs would translate to better student retention and higher enrollment and that he'd really work on it. Clearwater iterated that the data isn't always reflective of what the student's ability is or what is actually happening in the classroom due to the small student population. When some students perform above grade level while a few others that are behind, the effect on test scores is big. Anderson understood that and mentioned other ways to better measure student performance. She explained that there are curriculum based measures, unit tests, projects or rubrics and so on that can be used to better show how well the school is doing to support students.
- 9.0 Discussion on FASTBridge Scores Fall/Winter Comparison. The Director explained the results to the board. Clearwater added that the students usually experience a 'summer slide' during the summer break. Anderson suggested for the school to switch to a winter-to-winter contract. StandingCloud inquired about what's usually being discussed during the parent teacher conferences and whether parents of students with low attendance attend them. The Director explained that some absences are illness related and parents of students with low attendance often miss the conference. Clearwater pointed out that the Director and the Administrative Assistant make many attempts to contact parents (daily phone calls, letters).
- 10.0 Discussion on Strategic Plan. The Director found a lengthy old one and recommended a concise strategic plan. Winchell-Dahl emphasized the need to seek guidance on the process. The Director will call other schools to ask

who they work with. Anderson pointed out that the consultant will need to be someone experienced working with tribal entities. She brought up NACA as an example. Winchell-Dahl wanted this discussion on next month's meeting agenda. StandingCloud suggested having a retreat in between renewal and strategic plan deadlines to work on the strategic plan.

- 11.0 Training by Erin Anderson is postponed and will be rescheduled. Next month's training Chapter 24: *Ways Your Board Can Get In Trouble Without Even Trying*.
- 12.0 Motion by StandingCloud, second by Novitsky to adjourn at 7:01 P.M. All in favor – motion carried 5-0. Next meeting April 1, 2023 at 4:30 P.M.