

Voyageurs Expeditionary School Board Meeting Minutes

April 11,, 2023

4:30 pm

Mission

The mission of VES is to provide students with the necessary tools to lead meaningful and productive lives through hands-on learning, service to others, and environmental stewardship.

Vision Statement

Starting at a level much deeper than just curriculum, the design of VES addresses the origins of learning and the fundamental well-being of students.

The foundation necessary to achieve the mission of our school is the establishment of a community of learners, composed of students, families, teachers, and staff who share the conviction that the best education takes place in an intentionally developed environment that nurtures, protects, challenges, and values every member of that community.

GROUP MEETING NORMS

<i>Develop Group Norms 1x/year and refer back to them at the beginning of each meeting.</i>	
<i>time and stay on task.</i>	<i>Be on</i>
<i>te with transparency.</i>	<i>Opera</i>
<i>ain confidentiality.</i>	<i>Maint</i>
<i>well prepared and fully present.</i>	<i>Be</i>
<i>ain a sense of humor.</i>	<i>Maint</i>
<i>solution-focused and system thinker.</i>	<i>Be a</i>
<i>respectful and non-judgmental (verbally and non-verbally)</i>	<i>Be</i>

ATTENDANCE

Jessica: x	John x
Ryan x	Kari x
Kathy A	Gene x
Heather A	Chari x

Addie Washington from Osprey on Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Time	Agenda Item/Topic	Discussion	Decision/Result	Action/Steps
4:31 PM		Jess called meeting to order	Heather absent	
		Following items to be added to discussion items: MIA Conference Graduation Criteria Information Grant Opportunities ABC Company	Gene Motion to approve with additions Chari Seconded All approve	
	No conflict of interest			
4:37 PM	Consent Agenda	Kari Motion Gene seconded	all approve	
4:37 PM	Director's Report	Ryan: Enrollment 110. Link to weekly focus added for board to see. E Week getting underway. Art is being displayed at Watermark Gallery. E Sports went to state in the first season, placed 4th out of 12 teams. Celebration of Learning Night was a success. John: Can Theresa send out a reminder of big events to board members? Testing season upon us, next week is MCA testing. MACS website resources for board members, charter schools. Request an account to get started. Earth week next week also. Students will choose action summit groups. Osprey trip coming up and MAAP stars also has an upcoming spring conference. John; When is graduation? June 1 at BSU.		
4:49 PM	Public comments.	NA		
	Discussion Items			
4:49 PM	Osprey Presentation	Addie on zoom call presenting about renewal process. In May, OW will send an application to VES. The application is due September 15. Needs to be board approved before it's sent in. January 19, 2024 OW will send a renewal evaluation report. By March 31,		

		2024 OW will let VES know its decision. Contracts only up to 5 years. John; What are positive bullet points you look for? Addie: Varies by category. School is upholding values and working hard to implement programs and that it is having a positive impact on students. Annual Reports, Board Meeting minutes. Etc...		
5:04 PM	Group Health Policy	Kari read the first reading of the Health Insurance Policy. Jess:What is the context of this? Ryan: The 2 year proposal may be new? We'll ask Kathy to help explain this. Chari: TYPO Minnesota Statute. Needs an additional T		Ask Kathy about this
5:12 PM	Steps and Lanes	Ryan explains the language that will be added to the chart.		
5:16 PM	MIA Conference	John talked about the MIA conference. Wants VES students to be nominated for student of the year. Wants to encourage staff to attend conference and "be in the loop" about Native American education.		
5:19 PM	Graduation Questions	John had a parent contact him upset because their student was short two credits and they were not allowed to participate in graduation. John feels that they spent four years here and should be allowed to participate in the ceremony even if they receive a blank diploma. Jess asks if there is another school that allows this. Feels that doing this erodes the credibility of our school and takes away from those students who have put in the time. John asks Addie: How many other OW schools have a 100% graduation rate goal? Addie: Uncertain will look up and get back to us.		
5:31 PM	Grant Opportunities	Chari has found a grant for \$2,500 to help get the graduation honorarium program up and running. Chari has also found a grant for new tables and chairs for HS classrooms. John: Who are they with? Chari: Ottetail and Neilson Foundations.		
5:40 PM	ABC	Gene asks where we are at with ABC application. Ryan says we are working with Jeff Cwilka about what we can do.		
5:41 PM	Finance Committee	We did not meet.		

5:43 PM	Scholarship Committee	Tickets have been printed and we are selling them.		
5:44 PM	Election Committee	Last Day to vote tomorrow		
5:45 PM	Director Eval Committee	Has not met because of weather and staff out.		
5:46 PM	Approval of Additional Language of Steps and Lanes	John Motion. Gene Second.	All approve	
5:49		Motion to adjourn. Kari Motion. Gene Second.	All approve.	

NEXT MEETING(S): May 8 at 4:30 pm