

School Board meeting 8/21

Jess Saucedo Call to order 3:35 PM

Attending: Jess, Ryan, Kari, John, Chari, Kathy, Heather Absent: Gene

Kari Motion to approve meeting agenda. Heather seconds. All approve.

No conflict of interest.

Kari motion to approve consent agenda and financials. Jess and John second. Motion approved.

3:40 PM Director's report.

Pillager staff retreat July 31-Aug 2. 15 staff attended at least part time. Community building and school year planning. Ate turkey eggs. Teachers who are new to the school stayed overnight. Over the summer we identified areas in need of work for the next school years. Restorative practices, PBL, MS-HS transition, etc. Seems to have strengthened the team. Project Based Learning training Thursday and Friday 23 and 24th of August. Five staff will attend: Ryan, Nicole, Monica, Brett, Brad. Training by High Tech High and hosted at Paladin in Coon Rapids. The vans have finally arrived--they were ordered last November. The new vans hold 10 students and we are getting the the school logo added by Max Kelsey. EMC = auto insurance for school vehicles. Hired one para today. We still need two Special Ed. Teachers and one more para. Shar (the administrative assistant) will work Monday through Thursday, but also be present for most days with students in the building. Returning seniors and super seniors at 21+. Current enrollment 119 students. Could still add 3 middle schoolers.

No public comments

3:56 PM Discussion items: Malicious and Sadistic Policy required by the state of Minnesota. There was an error in the title. It did not match the wording of the language within the document. Language was reviewed and corrected from Malicious and Seditious to Malicious and Sadistic.

4:03 PM Financial Committee

Paid for vans. Flex days on schedule are optional for paraprofessionals. They would be paid for their hours those days by filling out a time sheet.

Jess spoke with the accountant about fundraising and donation of space from Rail River Folk School to avoid any possible conflicts of interest. There is a \$1500 cap for 'gambling' which includes raffles such as our quilt raffle. John from Miller-McDonald is our advisor about such things.

4:09 PM Scholarship Committee

How to share funds raised with students who graduated by completing all credit work prior to their graduation ceremony. This clarifies accounting and enrollment vs. attempting to figure out who walked but was not finished, etc. Four graduated last year. Is there a specific amount of money we give each graduate? Can we find a sponsor and set a reserve that the sponsor backs? The amount of the honorarium might change based on the number of students graduating each year. How can we even this out? Bemidji Area Schools has a scholarship foundation that operates separately from the district.

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Can board members be proactive about finding donations for graduates as we continue through the year? Work in progress...

4:31 PM Action Items

Student handbook: The biggest difference is the new restorative practice procedure which lays out disruptive behaviors and who handles various problems and the escalation of need in terms of restoration. We are implementing circle practice in restorative justice. John asked about restorative lunches and we don't know if that is acceptable per MDE.

Jess suggests that we remember to emphasize positive behaviors.

Cell phone policy updated. HS will enforce updated policy and use the 'traffic light' visual of when students. This will be consistent across the high school.

Grade cutoffs returned to 90, 80, 70, 60 etc.

Staff handbook: Need to change staffing hours. Some staff will need to work 7:30 to 3:30 and others will work the 8-4 option. The local district has changed bus drop-off times to 10 minutes earlier. PTO will be reviewed during the school year. School will buy out 10 days at \$100 a day for those not returning. Cap for saved PTO days is 20.

4:46 PM Jess motioned to approve handbooks. Kari seconds. Motion carries.

4:47 PM Food Service agreement. Kari motions to keep LLSS. Jess seconds. Motion carries.

4:48 PM Kari motions to approve Lease Aid application. Jess seconds. No changes. Motion carries.

4:48 PM Board Action Calendar has no changes. Kari motions to approve. Heather seconds. Motion carries.

4:50 PM Pledge of Allegiance policy. Has usually been waived at VES. We need to approve to waive the policy of regularly pledging allegiance. Chari motions to waive. Jess seconds. Motion carries.

4:53 PM Board Training schedule. Kathy advises that we should have ongoing training. This does not have to be formal or through an outside organization. Kari Motions to approve. Jess seconds. Motion carries.

4:57 PM Make sure it is in the handbooks. Jess motions to approve Malicious and Sadistic policy required by state of MN per corrections. Kari seconds. Motion carries.

4:59 PM Board Training agenda includes links from Addie at Osprey Wilds.

5:00 Kari motions to adjourn. Jess seconds. All in favor.

Form signing..

