



Voyageurs Expeditionary School Board Meeting Minutes

October 09, 2023

4:30 pm

In attendance: Gene, John, Ryan, Kathy, Kari, Jess, Heather
Addie and Pat from Osprey Wilds

4:30 PM Call to Order and Establish a Quorum, Land acknowledgement.

4:32 PM Kari motions to Approve Meeting Agenda, Heather seconds. All in favor.

No Declaration of Conflict of Interest

4:34 PM Kari motions to approve, John seconds consent agenda:

- ◆ Minutes 09-11-2023 Board Meeting
- ◆ 9-30-23 Financials

4:34 PM Director's Report. Next block student enrollment will be at 119 with five new students arriving.

Community service day last week. Total student service time: 274.4 hrs.
Great River Rescue, Rail River Folk School, Boys and Girls Club, Highway cleanup, Adult Day Services, DAC, etc.

MAAP Stars fall leadership last week. Shay Ostlund won state officer (one of 6 from the state). Kathy is the MAAP Stars advisor for VES. [Kelly Marcum](#) got the school a \$700 attendance grant, so there is a new plan for prizes.

Next week is our first e-week. College tours, Ponemah Roundhouse, Pizza, Fall Colors, Paint the Halls, Ball is Life, Sanding (to sell), Halloween.

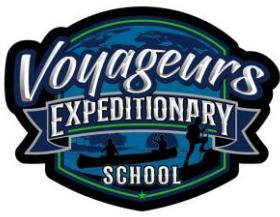
Celebration of Learning night 10/26. Last night of grading block. 6th and 8th grade presenting, PBL projects. Taco in a bag will be served.

MAP testing this week.

4:45 PM Public Comments: Meet Pat and Addie from Osprey Wilds.

4:46 PM Information/Discussion Items

Gene-Has a friend who can provide traditional skills opportunities such as Trapper/Fishing Guide-community connection. Can the school offer any financial incentives? Is a teacher, but might be able to arrange to run an e-week.



connection.

Jess-has a suggestion for a possible e-week via Rail River via the Indigenous Environmental Network with Kaylee Brett or Sam; Brad will meet with Diane about Bikes.

Rail River will be the location of the spook house/fundraiser where students can earn money for the trip to Montana. Volunteer Day Recap @ Rail River

Organizing a Gmail/Calendar for Board Actions, Meeting Calendars, Templates & Recurring Dates-*Tranferrable & shared with Director & Admin Staff

Also included an update/carry over from Eval & Board Goals in the board packet. Need to be checked for edits and suggestions.

Board sponsored an in Service Lunch -Board Members joined staff in with Qdoba financed by Trivent. Next time for Board Members to meet with people might be Celebration of Learning.

John-Graduation strategies & Raising Achievement: Asked Opsrey visitors about their average 4 year graduation rate. VES has 65% graduation rate. Testing scores went up. What, specifically, is the school working on now as an initiative? Ryan: working on a one-year graduation goal. At this point there are 11 students who can complete their senior year within one academic year.

Wants to hold parent meetings at Red Lake because a majority of our students come from Red Lake. Jess says that Kwe is working on establishing connections there.

Jess-Director Evaluation Rubric is lengthy and includes points/Google form survey. The reports were summarized and Jess shared with Ryan. Highest score was in vision/culture. Goals are being achieved. Next we should revisit board goals and adjust every few meetings.

5:08 PM Board Committees

Kari: updates on the Financial Committee. School is financially healthy. We have a conservative budget and enrollments are up.

Jess: Scholarship Committee is waiting for advice from the school accountant about how to share funds for recent graduates. Focus on on-time graduates. We had a quilt raffle last year. Might need to set up a capital campaign with local businesses. Scholarships not dependent on post-secondary education.



5:13 PM Action Items

Jess: There are annual Charter School Assurances that the school board should verify and Ryan/Jess should sign. This includes classroom materials, student ability to fulfill their religion, food service, staff hiring, attendance lottery, etc.

5:16 PM Jess motions to approve. Kari seconds. All approve. Motion carries.

5:19 PM Jess: Annual Board Goals. Create a procedure to implement student choice in advisory. This was not attempted yet due to high school staff turnover. What would the guidelines look like? Can the board create a new board attendance policy to include more flexibility? Kari and Kathy say no. This is the law.

John says 100% graduation should be the #1 goal of the school board. Jess motions to approve the goals with edits. Should the list be tabled for next time? Kari would like to postpone and continue the conversation.

5:31 PM Kari motions to table the board goals, Jess seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.

5:31 PM Board Training

Trainings for new members are usually February and August. There are other options at other times of the year. The next training offered is “The Board Role in Strategic Thinking and Planning”

5:33 PM Kari motion to **Adjourn the meeting. Jess seconds. All approve.**

**Next Board Meeting
November 13, 2023 @ 4:30 PM**