



Voyageurs Expeditionary School Board Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2024, 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.

Call to Order and Establish a Quorum ~ 4:35 pm. Jess called the meeting to order with 4 members present, quorum established

Present: Jess Saucedo, Chari LaDuke-Clark, Austin Claseman, John Eggers

Staff Present: Ryan Haasch, Kathy Skinner

Absent: Gene Porter, Kari Olson

Approval of Meeting Agenda ~ Jess moved to make changes to the agenda, adding a report from Elaine, review and approval of two policies. Austin seconded, MCU

Declaration of Conflict of Interest - none raised

A. Consent Agenda: Consent agenda items are considered routine in nature and will be voted upon with a single motion; however, any board member may request that items on the Consent Agenda be removed from it for independent consideration. Any items so identified will be moved to the Action Item portion of the agenda.

- Minutes October 24, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- October 2024 Financials ~ review spreadsheets and discussion John moved to approve the consent agenda; Chari seconded; MCU

How Well Are Students Doing?

B. Report From Elaine: after school programming and grants. Programs are going strong. Received and fired up the kiln. New activities include winter fishing and trapping. Indian Health Service grant (possible collab with Manidoo Ogitigaan). 3 students paid to run clubs, 1 doing IT and setup xboxes/security, 16 maintenance members. Work readiness training implemented soon. Altogether, approx 45 students involved/40% of the total VES student population is involved. It's very encouraging among the students.

C. Directors' Reports



- Enrollment is full. Attendance is Ok.
- Student workers through the grant program
- Tall Paul, Native rapper, came to the school. He will be back to teach a writing workshop.
- Mission statement–Native students family committee review
- Spirit week next week.
- Clarify policies up for review: Data Access–sharing to the public; Personnel Data “new”; Pupil Dismissal; Strike Weighted GPA–it’s within the Grading Policy we passed earlier this fall.

Jess motions to amend the action items to Strike the Weighted GPA policy.

Is Everything Occurring Appropriately?

D. Public Comments: Any person wishing to speak directly to the Board, once recognized by the board chair, may do so for up to 5 minutes. The public input period will last no longer than 5 minutes.

No public comments.

E. Board Committees

- Finance Committee -fundraising for Montana Trip–outdoor science explorations
- Can do concessions at Sanford Center next week. Also check in with the Lions Club for fundraising.
- Thrivent food grant
- Suggest Red Lake Tribe for support–2 band member students maybe attending Montana trip. They’ve been supportive in the past.

F. Action Items

- Data Access Policy. Motion by John, seconded by Jess to approve. MCU
- Personnel Data Policy. Motion by Austin, seconded by John to approve. MCU
- Pupil Dismissal Policy. Motion by Jess, seconded by Chari to approve. MCU

Board Assessment and Development

G. Board Training

- Finance Training in November.
- MACS - [Board and Administrator Training Requirements](#)

H. Adjourn the meeting - Jess moved to approve to adjourn at 5:32 pm; Chari seconded.
MCU

**Next Board Meeting
December 12, 2024 ~ 4:30 PM**