

**Prairie Creek Community School
School Board Monthly Meeting Agenda
January 26, 2012
7:00 PM
Prairie Creek Community School, Northfield**

1. Call meeting to order 7:10pm
2. Verified Quorum

2011-2012	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	June
Randy Clay	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Roz Eaton-Neeb	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					
Trish Ferrett	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Bonnie Jean Flom	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Paul Hager	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Dan Kelley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Laura Medwetz	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Cathy Oehmke	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Heidi Welsch	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Simon Tyler-ex officio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Keith Johnson- ex officio		✓	✓		✓	✓					
Colleen Braucher		✓		✓	✓	✓					

3. Recognition:
 - Laura Medwetz has been honored with Minnesota Teacher of the Year nomination.
4. Approve Minutes from December 21, 2011
 - Moved: Bonnie Jean Flom
 - Seconded: Cathy Oehmke
 - Passed: unanimous
5. Approve Agenda
 - Moved: Cathy Oehmke
 - Seconded: Bonnie Jean Flom
 - Passed: unanimous
6. Consent Agenda
 - (a)
7. Review Action Items from Fall Board/Faculty retreat
 - a) Write out acronyms/More specifics on agenda
 - b) Board members feel able to speak openly
 - c) Sharing teacher concerns-Board
 - d) Slate election process—feeling is it would be better to not be a slate of board members, to elect individuals. Does this need to be a change in the bylaws? Bonnie Jean will get some examples.
 - e) Nominations committee will bring officers names to June meeting.
 - f) Hiring policy will be brought to board by March.
 - g) Communication expectations when hiring a new Director need some work. The process needs to be explained more to the general public.
 - h) Still unclear about teacher representation on the board

More discussion to follow
8. Reports / Updates
 - (a) School Director Report
 - Open house this Sunday January 29, 2012. Dr. Richardson will be visiting us on Thursday February 1, 2012. He will meet with students, teachers, finance committee, board members and parents. He will be here from 7:30 to 4:30.
 - (b) Finance Committee

- i. 1% stipend for all staff in the building:

Moved: Dan Kelley
Seconded: Randy Clay
Passed: unanimous

Fund balance outlook of 30.55%, which is putting us in a good position. Looking at other schools pay and benefits packages. Looking at stipends. A stipend is a fixed amount of money for all staff of a one-time payment.

- (c) Buildings and Grounds – share Committee template

Outdoor classroom, going through the shipping container and storage unit, clean out the basement, parking lots, bald spots around the building, weeds, look at the old jungle gym, pesticides, PAC in Ramsey has a good system of writing charters for committees. Next meeting Feb 9th @ 4:15.

- (d) ERC

Meet several times with a topic of “Specials” and what specials will be offered going forward. Helping to educate the community on what we are legally bound to offer. Got input from staff at a staff meeting. What teachers are comfortable with teaching and what they are not comfortable with. Next step is to get input from parents. Next meeting date is not set.

- (e) Development

We have met twice with next meeting on Feb 9 @ 9:30. We have lowered the amount in our budget that we are trying to raise. This year we will try to raise \$30,000. Simple development plan, fall: give MN campaign, winter: giving from the friend of PCCS with newsletter, spring: auction is set for March 31 at the ballroom.

9. New Policies – review and vote:

- (a) Admissions

Moved: Cathy Oehmke
Second: Trish Ferrett
Passed: unanimous with amendment to page 3 line C

10. New Policies-First reading

- (a) Public & Private Personnel Data

11. Sabbaticals - discuss requests for some type of policy that would enable families who take sabbaticals to be guaranteed re-admission to Prairie Creek when they return.

If a student is gone for more than 15 days, the school is required to report that to the state and then un-enroll that student which then terminates the funding for that student. Michelle would like us to look at filling the spot with a new student and then when the former student returns raising the grade level to 31 students. Is this possible? If we have a policy we may see more families taking a sabbatical. When is the time when we decide to take a child in? 6 weeks, 6 months or a year? What about families that are on the waiting list and asking why we can't add their family? We need to be comfortable telling people why we can't add their child.

Next steps: Talk to the teachers about how they feel about increasing class size above 20. Also, talk with the attorney with legal implications on this topic.

12. Professional Development – educate the Board about the old Catalyst Program

13. Adjourn

Moved: Heidi Welsch
Seconded: Bonnie Jean Flom
Passed: unanimous

Next Board Meeting February 23, 2011