

Prairie Creek Community School
School Board Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2021 @ 4:00pm
Prairie Creek Community School, Northfield MN 55057

- 1 Call to order 4:02pm
- 2 Attendance

2021-2022	Aug 26	Sep 23	Oct 28	Nov 18	Dec 16	Jan 27	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apl 28	May 26	Jun 23
Shelly Dickinson	X										
Don Findlay	✓										
Kelsey Fitschen-Hemmah	✓										
Tim Goodwin	✓										
Molly McGovern Wills	X										
Beth Molitor	✓										
Lyndsey Reece	✓										
Christine Williams	✓										
Margit Zsolny	✓										
Simon Tyler-ex officio	✓										
Keith Johnson- ex officio	✓										
Colleen Braucher	✓										

- 3 Recognition/Announcements: Shelly Dickinson has had a house fire during the last storm over the weekend. She had to leave her home and we will find ways to support their family. The staff who have worked hard over the summer, Colleen for office work, Kelsey and Michelle B for ESY, ICT team for their work over the summer. Keith for managing the audit this year, thank you for your work. Christine for accepting our chair position.
- 4 Public Comments: Ben Johnson, Penelope’s dad. I am here for the safety protocols portion of the meeting. None of us want to be in the situation and hoped we would be through this pandemic, unfortunately we are not. We are in worse shape than we were at this time last year. Schools that have gone back early have been quarantining like crazy. There has been an increase in children being sick. I am hoping that some of the protocols you have in place right now will

be beefed up a bit from where they are. What happens during lunch time and snack time these children have their masks off. What happens with close contracts? Outside, no masks or distancing outside is not happening. It seems that with delta people should be wearing masks outside. I would love to see testing in the building. Contract tracing is important and it appears there is not a plan to do this.

5 Approve Agenda

Moved: Kelsey Fitschen-Hemmah

Second: Don Findlay

Passed: unanimous

6 Approve Minutes from the June 24, 2021 meeting

Moved: Don Findlay

Second: Beth Molitor

Passed: unanimous

7 Items for discussion and/or reports

a Director Report: Enrollment is a little fluid at this point. We currently have one opening in 5th grade right now. We will talk later in the meeting about health updates. We have been doing the typical back to school planning. We will have our all staff training day on Monday. It is a full day. The rest of the week is team meetings and planning. Tricia Christopherson was hired as our Spanish teacher. We are excited to have her as part of our community. We emptied all our classroom spaces and are busy putting it back together. We have added air conditioning to the Meadowlarks, Egrets and Doves classrooms. Thank you to our landlord for making this happen. We have replaced 2 of our water fountains with touch free water bottle fillers. Community Connections has met and they are working on events for the school year. Professional development coordinator is now Nancy. We talked at our retreat that this will be a reset year for PD. How do we best support children, families and ourselves in the moment that we are in? This will be our work next week. We have a new math curriculum this year. We are not offering an online learning option this year. This decision was made because it was extremely difficult last year with 2 dedicated teachers to run the program. We did not feel we could do this well and stay true to our mission.

b Education Program Update: Lots of conversation around math curriculum amongst teams. Teachers are putting their spaces back together. We have a new $\frac{4}{5}$ teacher, Ryan Kiesel! We are excited to welcome Ryan into our community.

c Finance Committee: Monthly financial statements for the month ending July 31, 2021. The first couple months are not all that important because there is not much happening. The adopted budget is the budget that we adopted in June. Enrollment is budgeted at 180 and if we only have 179 we will need to adjust that. Dental insurance was not in the adopted budget, so that is an example of another thing that needs to change. One student equals about \$7000.00 in revenue for the year. The fund balance policy says 25% at the end of the 3rd year. With the PPP funds we are in good shape. We are looking into using some of the PPP funds for a nature playground. This fall we will have a discussion about school finance in a more informal way, most likely in October. We are in the middle of our annual audit. It was 100% remote, we are at a point where they are asking a lot of detailed questions. I would like to think we will have our final audit report within a month. The auditors typically come down and present their findings.

d Development Committee: Our goal is \$60,000 this year. The first major development activity will be GiveMN. We need to discuss whether we need to re-vision what development looks like. We will start the year with dye-cut stickers, giving each family one and then can purchase more if they would like.

e Nominations Committee: Usually at this meeting we get board members assigned to committees. We will talk about this at our retreat. The school social is on Thursday, I encourage board members to talk to new families. Introduce yourself and talk about what the board does.

f Policy Committee: We are voting on the Pledge of Allegiance. This is an annual vote. All schools are required to recite the pledge of allegiance once a week or waive the requirement. At PCCS we try to discuss the flag and the pledge when it is a natural occurrence, an example would be on veterans day or another appropriate time.

g Sub Committee Reports:

i Community Connections: Michelle Martin has been leading a new group of parents in hosting pop up community connection events. They are planning four additional outdoor events. They are looking at a variety of options that includes students, parents, and an online component to connect families in a pandemic recovery year.

8 Items for Action

a Approval of COVID-19 Safety Protocols for 2021-22 School Year

Moved: Lyndsey Reece

Second: Kelsey Fitschen-Hemmah

Passed: unanimous

b Pledge of Allegiance

A motion to waive the requirement to say the Pledge weekly.

Moved: Kelsey Fitschen-Hemmah

Second: Tim Goodwin

Passed: unanimous

c Certify Board Officers

Christine Williams, Board Chair

Tim Goodwin, Vice Chair

Kelsey Fitschen-Hemmah, Treasurer

Beth Molitor, Secretary

Moved: Don Findlay

Second: Margit Zsolany

Passed: unanimous

d Consent Agenda

Moved: Kelsey Fitschen-Hemmah

Second: Lyndsey Reece

Passed: unanimous

9. Adjournment 5:41pm

Moved: Lyndsey Reece

Second: Kelsey Fitschen-Hemmah

Passed: unanimous

Next board meeting Thursday, September 23, 2021 @ 7:00pm