

Prairie Creek Community School
School Board Monthly Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2021 @ 7:00pm
Prairie Creek Community School, Northfield MN 55057

- 1 Call to order 7:01pm
- 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 | ✓ | ✓ | X | X | | | | | | |
| Don Findlay | ✓ | X | ✓ | ✓ | X | | | | | | |
| Kelsey Fitschen-Hemmah | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Tim Goodwin | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | X | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Molly McGovern Wills | X | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Beth Molitor | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | X | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Lyndsey Reece | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | X | | | | | | |
| Christine Williams | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Margit Zsolnay | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Simon Tyler-ex officio | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Keith Johnson- ex officio | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Colleen Braucher | ✓ | X | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |

- 3 Recognition/Announcements: Simon would like to give a shout out to the office staff, Connie, Diana, Megan, and Colleen for all their work with staff, students and families.
- 4 Public Comments N/A
- 5 Approve Agenda
Moved: Kelsey Fitschen Hemmah
Second: Beth Molitor
Passed: unanimous
- 6 Approve Minutes from the November 18, 2021 meeting
Moved: Margit Zsolnay
Second: Molly McGovern Wills

Passed: unanimous (Beth Molitor abstained)

7 Items for discussion and/or reports

a Director Report: The ICT team continues to meet every other week. They have reviewed and updated the testing plan. The main updates include removing text that refers to the beginning of the school year such as the removal of “the first 6 weeks of school.” Otherwise there have been no significant changes. The school testing program is going well with about 5% of the overall tests are positive. The state has given us enough at home COVID tests for staff and students in the building. Connie is working on a plan to distribute these to families. According to the CDC the best defense against COVID is to be vaccinated. Northfield Public Schools has put out a document that details certain criteria that need to be met and certain restrictions can be removed such as wearing masks for example. The ICT team will take a look at that document and they will discuss it with the hope of bringing something to the board for approval.

The $\frac{2}{3}$ team completed a trash/composting theme. Next week 2 of the $\frac{4}{5}$ classes will have an event. The Kestrels will have an event after break and Amanda is working on an event for next week. Give to the Max went extremely well. Simon attended the Northfield Promise meeting. We had an open house on November 30. About 5 families attended. We will have a bigger push for our February open house. Simon will attend the Northfield Public Schools board meeting in January and present to the board.

b Education Program Committee: Professional Development has included an equity lens about culturally responsive classrooms. Social and emotional videos have been created to focus on how we talk to each other and be with each other. The PD has been really invigorating for us. It has helped us to determine what we want to refocus our energy on. The Strategic Plan has 4 pillars. One of the pillars is Mental health support. Michelle Flannery has written 2 letters to the community to focus on the area. She has been really helpful working with some families who were in need of help. She is so skilled. Social, Emotional Learning is the second pillar. Social skills videos were shared to focus on this area. Third pillar is thematic learning. Science and Social studies themes were the focus area. In addition, this is a place where we get to share our progressive mission. Teachers are being asked to write about themes and progressive education in their newsletters. Equity goal was the fourth goal. The teachers are working on the Q-comp coaching which will

focus on equity. We also discussed today the new social studies standards that have an equity lens.

c Finance Committee: The budget was adjusted for the stipends that we will be disturbing in December, the dental, and the higher teacher sub rate. We discussed past things that have affected the budget and future things that could possibly affect the budget. We are still in a somewhat unusual year for budget. The primary difference is the PPP loan shifting out of this year and into last year. We do have a nice fund balance this year. But we need to be realistic about our ongoing budgets and how expenses this year will affect the future. We hope to have a preliminary budget to the board in March or April.

d Development Committee: We had an incredible Give to the Max campaign. We raised about \$45,000 during that campaign. We currently have raised \$47,000 over all this year.

e Nominations Committee: We have a letter to send out to the community looking for nominations. We are planning a Zoom Q&A that will be on January 13th.

f Policy Committee: Thank you Margit who has been organizing the electronic folder for policies!

g Sub Committee Reports

Arts Committee

(submitted by Amy Haslett- Marroquin)

The Arts Committee met on Dec. 7th to decide to move forward with the planning of a spring arts residency program with naturalist Eleanor Jenson. Kelly Connole is taking a leadership role in helping to coordinate this residency. It will focus on nature photography on the school grounds and then creating sketches from the photos that will help our community identify the plants in our woods and fields. We have a follow up meeting with Elenor next week and will then present dates for PCCS staff to confirm for the art program. We are also scheduling several art focused ASG gatherings, with the goal of inviting in a diverse mix of artists.

Technology Committee

The Technology Committee met on Dec. 15th. The committee discussed and reviewed in-process storage plans for ipad and chromebooks. The addition of a projector unit in the Kestrels is underway and should be completed in the next couple of weeks pending delivery of components.

The committee discussed communication tools to support safety drills. In the new year, the Crisis Management team will review text/phone options to add to our current model of safety drill communication with staff.

With the help of Canopy, the committee explored options for adding wifi to the north side of the building. This will be a support to the 4 / 5 team when they are using the tents for projects such as Village.

8 Items for Action

a Consent Agenda

Additional Teacher Work Day

Each classroom teacher will be allocated one additional work day in January. The purpose of this day is narrative writing in preparation for winter conferences. Approximate budget cost \$2000 for substitute teachers.

Working Agreement Revisions

Olivia Rezac - Teaching Assistant / After School Care

Charter School Teacher Residency Program

University of St. Thomas teacher quality partnership grant.

PCCS is participating in this program to support Cale Steinhoff in completion of his Special Education teacher licensure.

Moved: Kelsey Fitschen Hemmah

Second: Margit Zsolnay

Passed: unanimous

9. Adjournment 8:12pm

Next board meeting Thursday, January 27, 2021 @ 7:00pm