

Prairie Creek Community School  
School Board Meeting Minutes  
February 22, 2024 @ 7:00pm  
Prairie Creek Community School, Northfield MN 55057

- 1 Call to order
- 2 Attendance

2023-2024	Aug 24	Sep 28	Oct 26	Nov 16	Dec 21	Jan 25	Feb 22	Mar 21	Apl 25	May 23	Jun 27
Nancy Dennis	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓				
Shelly Dickinson	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓				
Tim Goodwin	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X				
Ryan Kiesel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X				
Beth Molitor	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Jess Provancha	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X				
Lyndsey Reece	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X				
Christine Williams	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Margit Zsolnay	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Simon Tyler-ex officio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X				
Keith Johnson- ex officio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Colleen Braucher	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

- 3 Recognition/Announcements: Dale Kruse recognized Prairie Creek students and the St. Olaf students at the Academic Leadership meeting for the amazing Opera production. Thank you to the 4-5 teachers for their planning and work on Wolf Ridge. All the teachers, especially the 4-5 team for their attendance at Wolf Ridge week, leading Parent Education night, Valentines Day, the Community event with bingo and a bake sale and the Open House.
- 4 Public Comments: Molly Westler, she has a 1st grader at school. Samantha Hemmah is running for school board.
- 5 Approve Agenda  
Moved: Margit Zsolnay  
Second: Shelly Dickenson

Passed: unanimous

6 Approve Minutes from the January 25, 2024 meeting

Moved: Nancy Dennis

Second: Margit Zsolnay

Passed: unanimous, Shelly Dickenson abstained

7 Items for discussion and/or reports

a Nominations Committee: There are 4 open positions this year. We have 7 nominees to fill the 4 spots. The nomination communication has been sent to the PCCS parents.

b Education Program Committee: Teachers are grateful for family participation at school events. The families are coming to the school for various events such as volunteering, attending parent education night and Community Connection events. The teachers are planning another all school book club. Monday was a Professional Development, PD, work day. The focus was on coaching or being coached. The teachers also discussed the budget during the PD day.

c Director Report

**Enrollment and Waiting List for 2023/2**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Enrollment (current)</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Waiting List (for 23/24)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>52</b>

**K Waitlist for 2024-2025: 72 (Jan '23: 44; Jan '22: 38; Jan '21: 38)**

**Program Updates**

Key program happenings / updates:

- The Opera Residency collaboration with St. Olaf was a great success. The culminating performance on January 29 was a full auditorium at the Northfield Middle School
- Fifth grade Wolf Ridge week took place Feb 5 - 9. Students shared their experiences at an All School Gathering. Maggie Kiley and resident teacher Jakob Anderson led fourth grade week with a MAPS mini-theme and a field trip to River Bend Nature Center with an orienteering class

**Staffing updates**

- No updates

**Building / Grounds**

No updates

**Community Connections / Outreach**

- A parent education evening on the topic of math was presented by parents on February 13. Approximate 45 parents were in attendance
- The Student Council prepared a bingo and bake sale evening on February 16. This was a social event for families and a fundraiser for Ruth's House
- The February open house for prospective families on February 17 well-attended. Teachers were present to give tours and a panel of staff engaged in a Q and A with interested families
- Dr. Hillmann, Northfield Superintendent, and Daryl Kehler conducted an authorizer site visit on January 29

### **Professional Development**

Teacher-led Wednesday professional development sessions have centered on:

- Math parent education
- All School book club
- Art and Oracy

The faculty Professional Development day (PD) on February 19 focused on:

- Peer Coaching
- Sustainability Conversations
- Team Meetings

#### i Winter Strategic Plan Update

### **Winter Strategic Plan Update**

#### **+** PCCS Strategic Plan 2022 - 2026

d Finance Committee: There were very few changes in the budget for this fiscal year. The 24-25 budget is currently being developed. Keith attended the recent PD day and spoke with the teachers regarding the predicted short fall in the upcoming years. The current 3 year budget is compliant with the 25% fund balance outlook.

e Development Committee: Saturday, May 18, 2024 is the date for the 2nd Annual Squirrel Jam. We are currently exploring foregoing food trucks and trying to make a plan to provide food ourselves.

f Policy Committee: Nothing at this time

g Sub Committee Reports

### **Wellness Committee (submitted by Connie Menssen)**

The Wellness Committee met for the 2nd time this school year on January 31. Allana Kern from American Heart Association joined us to answer questions about Kids Heart Challenge that we will be a part of in March. We also talked about nutrition and how this committee can impact healthy eating at school. The initial response to this is to offer healthier choices at After School Care. A brief infectious disease update was given.

#### 8 Items for Action

a Consent Agenda

### **Teacher Retirement Notice**

Special Education Teacher Michelle Bigalke. Submission of formal notice of retirement at the end of the 2023-2024 school year

Moved: Nancy Dennis

Second: Beth Molitor

Passed: unanimous

9. Adjournment 8:05pm

Next board meeting March 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm