

Prairie Creek Community School
School Board Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2024 @ 7:00pm
Prairie Creek Community School, Northfield MN 55057

1. Call to order 7:00pm
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	✓	✓	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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X			
Margit Zsolnay	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X			
Simon Tyler-ex officio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓			
Keith Johnson- ex officio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Colleen Braucher	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X			

3. Recognition/Announcements: We would like to recognize the 2/3 grade team for the field day and camp-in. That is a full day and night commitment!
4. Public Comments: Dr. Hillmann, Molly Westler and Samantha Hemmahin in attendance
5. Approve Agenda
Moved: Shelly Dickinson
Second: Ryan Kiesel
Passed: unanimous
6. Approve Minutes from the February 22, 2024 meeting
Moved: Shelly Dickinson
Second: Ryan Kiesel
Passed: unanimous
7. Items for discussion and/or reports
 - a. Dr. Hillmann Presenting on Northfield High School New Building Initiative
 - i. There are serious concerns with Northfield High School due to infrastructure issues such as end of life heat and air conditioning systems. Classrooms and science labs have very little natural light, high-school sports are using the elementary

gymnasiums which causes limited access for others, including young children. If the referendum is passed in November 2024, then 12-18 months to design, then build so probably looking at an updated building in use 2027-2028.

b. Nominations Committee

i. The nominee candidate's bio communication was sent out to all parent members. We are in the process of researching an electronic ballot, Electron Buddy. The ballots will be sent right after Spring Break on Wednesday, April 3rd and will close on Tuesday, April 9.

c. Education Program Committee: For Professional Development, PD, Laura Stelter, guest, presented on English Language Learners, ELL, which is required for all teachers. Molly led a discussion on how to build a more robust writing program within the school and across all classes. During the all staff PD session, which included everyone within the building, the school mission and values were discussed along with activities regarding Eco-identity.

There are many classroom happenings as well; Culminating event for the Chickadees on mapping. The 2/3 finished up an Animal Studies Theme. The 4/5 went on a field trip to release the trout and visit the Lake Byllesby dam.

Director Report:

Enrollment and Waiting List for 2023/24

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

Program Updates

Key program happenings / updates:

- This past week was the lottery for the kindergarten students. There are 44 kindergarteners on the waitlist.
- 2-3 Field Day / Camp-in involved a trip to Base Camp, Fort Snelling, evening activities and an overnight experience at the school
- A new all school book club explored a reading and related activities to the book All The Ways To Be Smart

Staffing updates

- No updates

Building / Grounds

No updates

Community Connections / Outreach

- The Environmental Club is collaborating with St. Olaf students in a bird house building project
- On March 18 PCCS conducted it's admissions' lottery. 30 kindergarten places have been offered and waitlists established
- Waterford Township used our school gym for their Annual Meeting on March 12
- Simon and Kelsey represented PCCS at the Minnesota of Charter Schools Charter Day at the Capitol event. We met with legislators Sen. Duckworth and Rep. Koznick for discussions on equitable school funding for charter schools

Professional Development

Teacher-led Wednesday professional development sessions have centered on:

- ELL (presented by Laura Stelter)
- Special Education team book share

Writing

d. Finance Committee: There are no big changes on the Finance Binder for the time period ending February 29, 2024. Budget needs to be approved by June 30th. A draft will be available at the April meeting.

e. Development Committee: Committee met to discuss Squirrel Jam on May 18, 2024. Communication was sent to current families today, March 21, 2024. There is a plan to send communication to alumni as well.

f. Policy Committee

i. Review Mandated Testing Procedure & Security Policy

g. Sub Committee Reports: no reports

8. Items for Action

a. Approve revised Mandated Testing Procedure & Security Policy

Moved: Lyndsey Reece

Second: Ryan Kiesel

Passed: unanimous

9. Adjournment: 8:06pm

Next board meeting April 25, 2024 @ 7:00pm