

Prairie Creek Community School
School Board Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2024 @ 7:00pm
Prairie Creek Community School, Northfield MN 55057

- 1 Call to order - 7:02pm
- 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: Olivia thank you for your work with the orchestra and all the music. Especially for the Spring Music Concert this week.
May Day celebration and upcoming Squirrel Jam event on May 18th.
- 4 Public Comments: PCCS Environmental Club and parents, Molly Westler in attendance
- 5 Approve Agenda
Moved: Ryan Kiesel
Second: Nancy Dennis
Approved: unanimous
- 6 Approve Minutes from the March 21, 2024 meeting
Moved: Lyndsey Reece
Second: Shelly Dickinson
Approved: unanimous with Christine Williams abstaining
- 7 Items for discussion and/or reports
 - a Environmental Club Report: Delivering their annual report. Currently they have been working on Prairie restoration, soiling testing and making bird boxes. They have many future ideas that is why we need funding and the board support.

b Nominations Committee: The first ever electronic ballot at PCCS. We had about 107 votes using the system compared to 120-130 returned votes using a paper. Kendra, Kiara, Margit were selected as board candidates for the 2024-2027 term.

c Education Program Committee: This time of year is projects, projects, projects. Honoring week for the 5th graders was a big success, along with the 4th grade personal projects. The remainder of the school classes starts their personal projects as the % end their projects. We had fun with some science learning around the eclipse. All of the children are almost done with the MCAs. The most recent All School Gathering (ASG) was the All School Book club. This time the book is Worm and Caterpillar. The book was read in the classrooms, and then the children had an activity in ASG. Connected to the book, from the School Book club, will have some art connected to it. The plan is for the art to be displayed for May Day. We submitted our All School Book Club work to the MN Association of Charter School for their innovation award. We are one of the finalists, and the winner will be announced at a luncheon on May 9th. The Jeffers foundation came to PD yesterday and taught the teachers. The teachers will have the next few Wednesdays to work on narrative writing for May conferences.

d Director Report:

Enrollment and Waiting List for 2024/25

Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Enrollment (current)	30	30	30	30	30	30	180
Waiting List (for 24/25)	40	10	9	8	1	6	74

Program Updates

Key program happenings / updates:

- During honoring week, 60 fourth and fifth graders shared their independent research projects. An honoring evening was held on April 19 to celebrate the children’s work and give gratitude to mentors
- Students in Grades 3-5 participated in MCAs for reading. 5th graders also participated in science MCAs
- A new all school book club Worm and Caterpillar explores friendship themes. PCCS is a finalist for a MACS innovation award for this initiative
- The spring Music Concert, led by music and orchestra teacher Olivia Moraczewski was held at the Middle School auditorium on April 23

Staffing updates

- No updates

Building / Grounds

The school’s application for Affiliated Building Company status has been approved by the state. We are in the process of transition from PC Inc

Community Connections / Outreach

- Kindergarten Orientation was hosted for incoming families and children on April 20
- Community Connections and the Development Committee have been busy planning and preparing for the May 18 Squirrel Jam fundraiser / community event
- The annual May Day parade and community picnic will be held on Wednesday, May 1

- Ryan Kiesel is leading a Bike to School event on May 8
- Simon attended the MACS Director Regional Meeting on April 18
- Northfield MS fifth grade band performed for our 4-5 grade children

Professional Development

Teacher-led Wednesday professional development sessions have centered on:

Environmental Education - Workshop led by Jeffers Foundation

Peer Coaching

Folk Dancing

Green School Conference Share Out

e Finance Committee: Intensive budget planning happening now. Next month the committee will bring a preliminary budget to the board for next year. The Finance Committee is working on the budget and going through line by line. The board needs to approve a budget by June 30, 2024. We have a policy that the projected fund balance needs to be at or above 25% at the end of the 3rd year. Currently, the projected budget in year 4 is below 25% if we do not reduce our costs or increase revenue in future years.

f Development Committee: Squirrel Jam preparations are underway. Thank you to Michelle Martin for all the work on planning this event.

g Policy Committee: No update.

h Sub Committee Reports: Wellness Committee met yesterday. We discussed the American Heart Association fundraisers we participated in. The committee agreed we would not participate in it in the future. We talked about how After School Care, ASC, staff has worked to bring healthier snacks for the students attending.

8 Items for Action

a Certify New Board Members

Kiara Jorgenson, Kendra Rasmuson, Cale Steinhoff and Margit Zsolnay

Moved: Ryan Kiesel

Second: Beth Molitor

Approved: unanimous

9. Adjournment: 8:30pm

Next board meeting May 23, 2024 @ 7:00pm