

January 28, 2021
Vermilion Country School
Board Meeting
4 p.m.

Present: Karin Schmidt, Paula Herbranson, Jodi Summit, Dick Larmouth (via video), Marit Kringstad (at 4:05pm)

Absent: none

Also present: Frank Zobitz, Michelle Lubinski (will be new parent board member)

Motion to approve the agenda by Karin, second by Paula- all yes

Motion to approve consent agenda, minutes from Dec. 10 and 17- by Karin, second Paula- all yes

Budget adjustments

Frank- Osprey Wilds noted some minor issues with our revised budget, we have made the adjustments required. Changed bottom line by about \$1,000, revised budget shows deficit of \$5,192. Motion to approve revised budget FY 2021 by Paula, second by Marit- all yes

It was noted there are some additional revenues that will be received that are not included in the budget at this time.

World's Best Workforce evaluation by Osprey Wilds

Needed to make some additions dealing with our teacher data.

Motion to revise WBWF by Karin, second by Paula- all yes

Hybrid learning update - Budget update

Frank reported the hybrid learning model has hit the budget targets set last fall.

The staff is considering moving to a schedule with all students in school Mondays/Tuesdays, to enable more participation and better ability to plan group activities.

Some changes would be needed in the kitchen schedule.

Staff is also looking at adding a third in-school day. Frank said the impact to the budget would be about \$25,000 in additional transportation costs.

Board members wondered what the impact would be on special ed para hours, since these need to be maintained.

The school has applied for a PPP loan, along with a grant from St. Louis County for COVID-19 related costs. Also in line for some other federal grant funding.

Motion to move to three days a week in-school with all students on those days (schedule set by school staff to insure that special education para time is preserved and properly utilized) by Marit, second by Karin- all yes

Board will consider adding back janitorial hours once the new schedule is in place and grant funding is secured.

Enrollment/Grade Cap

Would like to be able cap of the three grade clusters at 15 students (7/8, 9/10, 11/12)

This will not change our actual enrollment policy

Motion to highlight school's small cluster policy which insures small class sizes by Karin, second by Paula- all yes

Graduation requirements

Frank discussed the need to add some flexibility into our graduation requirements to account for issues related to distance learning.

Our students are typically earning more than 6 credits a year (recovery credits)

State requires 21.5 credits, we require 24 credits

Will discuss at next month's meeting, with a more formal plan

Recruitment/Advertising

Board created an Ad-hoc marketing committee- VCS student, Jodi, Frank, Jolene, Karin

Goals are to: Develop standard messaging and put together a plan to present to the board

Annual meeting planning

February 25, 2021 at 5pm

Regular meeting at 4pm

Elections:

Marit- community member

Paula- teacher spot

Michelle Lubinski- parent seat

One open parent seat

Board training

Board members will do distance learning and watch video on conducting a board election

December 2020 financials

Cash balance is improving, cash balance at end of month was \$67,404

Motion to approve December financials with \$48,202.80 in deposits, \$81,362.33 in withdrawals, and \$80,336.12 expenses posted to SmartFinance. Business manager Pam Zahn noted some budget lines need to be adjusted to match expected spending

Motion to approve financials for December 2020 by Marit, second by Dick- all yes

Frank has been accepted into four-month school leadership program through Southwestern Minnesota State. He is also completing the Charter School Bootcamp program through MDE
Frank is starting to work on process for staff evals

Motion to adjourn at 5:57pm

