

Board of Directors Meeting
Marine Village School
Thursday, February 20, 2025
6:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Sarah Stivland (Chair) in person
Kien Trung Nguyen (Vice Chair) in person
Mike Lammi (Treasurer) via Zoom
Kelly Jeanetta (Secretary) in person
Daryl Timmer (Board Member) in person
Kate McDearmon (Board Member) in person
Michelle Johnson (Board Member) in person

Community Members Present:

Cari McGlynn (Interim Principal) in person
Dan Willenbring (Multi-Generational Committee) via Zoom
Steve Dibb via Zoom
John Goodfellow and Kitsi Vadheim in person

Board Members not in Attendance:

Jenn Cress (Board Member)

Authorizer Present:

David Peterson (MOChA) via Zoom

I. Meeting Recorded

II. Meeting called to order

III. Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Daryl to approve the Agenda subject to the addition of the Academic Committee Report. Kien seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

IV. January 16, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Kate moved to approve the minutes of January 16, 2025 Board meeting. Daryl seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the December 19, 2024 Board meeting minutes.

February 3, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes

The Board voted to approve the special meeting minutes with one abstention (Kelly).

V. Treasurer's Report (Mike)

Some key points:

- The format of the current budget reports will change to provide more transparency.
- MDE's holdback has been paid in full.
- The only bank loan that remains to be paid is the line of credit.
- The 2022-23 audit has been received and the auditors are now working on 2023-24.
- SPED reimbursement is current. We may have been overpaid so we will have to retain a reserve in the event of clawback.
- The payroll deduction process for insurance is completed and we are in the process of transitioning to a new payroll vendor (cmERDC).
- The CSP Grant will be \$21,000.00 less than anticipated due to certain necessary purchases having been deemed by the grantor as consumables and therefore not subject to grant money.
- Lease payments to the City of Marine on St Croix started in January 2025. Mike will meet with the City in March to negotiate a payment plan in connection with back lease payments.
- We have three anonymous donations totaling \$85,000.00. One of the donations (\$25,000.00) was given in recognition of Lon Pardun's service to the City and to the MVS.
- We have 126 kids for the 2025-26 school year, which meets our goal of 125.
- When a school's operating debt exceeds 2.5% of its annual operating expenses, it must submit a plan for debt elimination to the State of Minnesota. It is likely MVS will be free of this "SOD" (Statutory Operating Debt) process by the end of the 2025-26 school year.

VI. Principal's Report (Cari)

Comprehensive Achievement & Civil Readiness Report: Schools in Minnesota are required to have strategic plans that address school readiness, racial and economic achievement gaps, high school graduation and career and college readiness. The Comprehensive Achievement & Civic Readiness (CACR) Report (previously known as The World's Best Workforce Report) was submitted by Dr. Kokx in December and will be on the MVS website.

Cari gave the Board an oral presentation of the Report. Kelly moved to approve the Report. Kien seconded the motion. The Report was unanimously approved.

2025/26 Academic Calendar: Kien moved to approve the 2025-26 academic calendar. Kate seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Miscellaneous: The spring play will be the Lion King, to be held May 16 and 17, 2025. The Science Fair is Thursday, February 27, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

VII. Executive Director

The Board discussed the need for an Executive Director search committee consisting of parents, teachers and community members. A committee will be formed at the next Board meeting. Also, Sara and Mike and Cari will develop a description of what the position entails for discussion at the March Board meeting.

Steve Dibb submitted his resume and introduced himself and his qualifications. He talked about the assistance he provided Dr. Kokx and his comprehensive experience in education. Daryl moved to approve a short-term independent contract arrangement for Steve Dibb to operate as interim Executive Director. Michelle seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.

VIII. Governance Committee Report (Kien)

Elections procedures were developed by the Governance Committee. An Election Notice was prepared and was posted on the MVS website, as was a detailed FAQ. The Board will vote to approve the election procedures at the next meeting.

All applications (including incumbent applications) must be submitted by March 14, 2025.

IX. Community Outreach Report (Jenn)

Jenn reported that the donation solicitation letter went out and, to date, we have received \$4,100.00 in donations.

X. Facilities Report (Kate)

School Nutrition Program reimbursement for November and December was received. The Wellness Committee is meeting next week

XI. Academic Report (Anna)

Daryl gave the report. The Committee created a Google document for teachers to input concrete data that describes learning objectives and how lessons align with core knowledge requirements and state standards. Daryl observed that the tool is ready for use.

XII. Multi-Generational Committee Report (Dan Willenbring)

Dan met with the City Council. He updated the Council regarding the admissions lottery, the School Forest Designation timeline, and the upcoming Board elections.

Dan also attended the Multi-Generational Committee meeting. Jaime Souza presented. There was strong support for the School Forest. Jaime will present to the City Council at the March meeting.

Dan presented a draft Land Management Agreement to the MG Committee, which was approved by that Committee for submission to the City.

The MVS Board needs to approve a resolution by April that allows it to apply for the School Forest designation.

There was a discussion regarding managing the facility space in terms of collaboration between MVS and the Folk School -- understanding what the Folk School needs while insuring our teachers have sufficient space – and being mindful of our capabilities when considering any additional grade expansion. We need to manage expectations and expenses.

Mike will be working with the Folk School to discuss sharing expenses.

XIII. Authorizer Comments (Dr. David Peterson)

Dr. Peterson expressed that we are solidifying our governance and Board leadership has been impressive. We have developed a model that will sustain us: We built an academic model first and are working on a financial model to support it.

Dr. Peterson will soon be doing his annual site visit.

XIV. Next Meetings

March 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

April 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

XV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.