

Board of Directors Meeting  
Marine Village School  
Thursday, May 15, 2025  
6:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present:**

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

**Board Members Not Present:**

Kate McDearmon (Board Member)

**Community Members Present:**

Steve Dibb (Contract Executive Director) in person

**Authorizer Present:**

David Peterson (MOChA) via Zoom

**I. Meeting Recorded**

**II. Meeting Called to Order**

**III. Meeting Agenda**

- Kien moved to approve the agenda. Michelle seconded the motion. The agenda was unanimously approved.

**IV. April 17, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes**

- Daryl moved to approve the minutes. Jenn seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**V. Executive Director Report (Steve Dibb)**

- Title II Funds were paid for some professional development this year. (These are federal funds focused on advancing student achievement via learning opportunities for educators.)
- A number of educational grants are being released and for which MVS is applying.
- MVS needs to renew a number of special services contracts, namely Navigate (school nurse support), Speech Partners, DAPE (Developmental Adaptive Physical Education), and Designs for Learning.

- Mike moved to approve renewing the special services contracts. Kelly seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **VI. Principal Report (Steve reported for Cari)**

- MCA testing is completed. Results will be released in the fall.
  - The science portion for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders was new this year. Quality control assessments will determine whether any changes will be made to the science portion for next year.
- Dibels and i-Ready testing is underway.
- Field Day is May 20, 2025.
- Lion King opens Friday night and runs through Saturday night.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade graduation is May 27, 2025.
- Parent reminder: June 2 and 3 were added to the calendar. These last two days of school will be trips to Osceola Landing and William O'Brien State Park.
- June 4 and 5 are teacher work days.

## **VII. Finance Report (Mike)**

- The 2023-24 audit was submitted today. (The 2022-23 audit previously completed.). We have appealed the \$9,000.00 late penalty.
- There was a payroll issue. Because funds are so tight, we cannot afford to make payroll without MDE's payments. The May 15 payroll was delayed by a few hours because MDE was a few hours late with payment. Going forward, payroll will not come out at 7:00 a.m. as before but will be later in the day.
- The Finance Committee met May 5 and completed the budget. Ending FY25 fund balance will be negative (\$255,560.00). Projected FY26 year end (assuming 120 students) will be negative (\$33,680.00) on account of FY25 debt carryover. In other words, while our proposed budget for 2026 gets us into positive numbers, our outstanding debt carryover puts us in the negative.
  - Mike moved to approve the revised budget. Kien seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Cari gave three (3) tours this week!
- The teachers will put together a list of things they wish to be addressed with the Folk School.

## **VIII. Governance Committee Report (Kien)**

- The Board election was held. Carla Hinz did an amazing job administering the vote.
- We only had 45% voter turnout. Next time it would be wise to extend the hours of voting beyond 5:00 p.m.
- A letter from MVS teaching staff was read aloud. It requested renegotiation of PTO days and that insurance coverage remain at 75% (rather than the proposed 50%). It also requested "a reasonable deadline of Friday, June 6 for 2025-26 employee agreements/contracts to be distributed to staff with a clear indication of teaching role, salary and compensation package so we can

clearly consider our futures.” The letter also requested an opportunity to renegotiate compensation packages before January 1, 2026.

- The Board discussed the Employee Compensation Policy with respect to the existing Minnesota Earned Sick and Safe Leave Law and the Paid Leave Law that will go into effect January 1, 2026 (which permits 12 weeks’ paid leave for serious health conditions). We will need to plan for potential additional costs under the 2026 Paid Leave Act.
- Kelly raised the issue of carryover under Minnesota’s Earned Sick and Safe Leave law. Steve noted that some schools permit accrual of sick leave and ability to donate hours to staff in need. A discussion ensued about insuring that our policy complies with State law. A decision was made to table approval of the Policy until we have had an opportunity for further discussion and research.

**IX. Academic Committee Report (Anna)**

- There was no report this month.

**X. Facilities Report (Kate)**

- The group has not been able to get together.
- The Board will need to address the food contract for next year.
- We need another bus driver. Discussion ensued about whether we can pay families to bring their kids to school in order to maximize cartage with one route or charge families for MVS having to transport their children. (We later learned that charging families within District 834 for transport is not permissible.)

**XI. Community Outreach Report (Jenn)**

- There was no meeting and is no report.

**XII. Wellness Committee (Kate)**

- The first meeting of the Wellness Committee took place. It is working on a policy to meet MDE Goals and requirements.

**XIII. Marine Multi-Generational Site Committee Report (Dan Willenbring)**

- Dan was not present for the meeting but Kelly reported the next meeting will be held May 20, 2025.

**XIV. Board Topics**

- The first interview Executive Director is scheduled for Monday, May 19, 2025. Additional interviews will be held on June 5, 2025.
- Sarah reported that Cari would like to go back to teaching so that we should pivot from searching for a part-time Executive Director to looking for a full-time Executive Director. Sarah offered to draft and post a full-time Executive Director position.
  - Daryl made a motion to post for a full-time Executive Director/Principal position.

- Kelly seconded the motion.
- The motion was unanimously approved.

**XV. Authorizer Comments (Dr. David Peterson)**

- Dr. Peterson commended Mike and the Board for its ongoing efforts. The new budget will help us emerge from SOD. He also congratulated us on a successful first election.
- Dr. Peterson shared with us his site visit (including a slide show). He said it was a great day. He and his partners met with teachers, Board members and kids.

**XVI. Next Meetings**

June 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

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

**XVII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.