

**POINT OF DISCOVERY SCHOOL
GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2016, 6:00 P.M.
POINT OF DISCOVERY SCHOOL
1900 WEST ZINDA DRIVE, STEVENS POINT, WI 54481**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Jen Zach called the meeting Point of Discovery School Governance Board to order at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 5, 2016.

2. ROLL CALL AND VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

☐ Ray Ackerlund	☒ Dan Lathrop	☒ Christine Munson	☒ Connie Negaard (non-voting)
☒ Terry Rothmann	☒ Jeremy Solin	☒ Tim Thompson	☐ Brad Van Den Elzen
☒ Jen Zach	☒ Andrew Halverson		

Excused: Brad Van Den Elzen, Ray Ackerlund

Guests: Christopher Heitz, Cathy Barbier, Cameryn Ehlers, Joseph Vinopal, Kimber Borgnes, and Marie Stutuer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**It was moved and seconded (Rothmann, Halverson) to approve the agenda.
Motion carried by voice vote 7–yes 0–no.**

4. INTRODUCTION OF STAFF

Jen Zach – President of Governance Board. Mary Jo Lechner started looking at different models of learning; found Expeditionary Learning and felt it would help meet needs of students. Jeremy Solin along with others in community got involved in taskforce to think through solutions – district, parents, and community met. EL was determined to be preferred model; grant was written for Charter school. This school has changed lives.

Jeremy Solin – VP of Governance Board. Not involved with PoDS/school from very beginning, but close. Has 3 children in school district; currently works with UW Extension.

Tim Thompson – Governance Board/Parent of PoDS student. Recent member of governance board.

Cathy Barbier – Lived in WI for 3 years; from NJ. Part of start up Charter School in NJ; appreciated small community, small classrooms, able to get to know families; community feel to school. Has 2 children. Background with elementary and special ed.

Andrew Halverson – Governance Board/Parent of 3, husband of teacher. Served as Mayor of Stevens Point, on the Bd of Directors for UWSP Foundation, Pres of CENTERGY. PoDS is very high interest; considering meeting needs of students and learning styles.

Cameryn Ehlers – Math teacher at PoDS. From Door Co. Teach for America Program in South Carolina. PoDS is great supportive community; kids are great. Moved back to WI; good to be back in state.

Christopher Heitz – SS Teachers. Taught at Washington Island – smallest district in state. Taught at Merrill; did teaching practicum with Dan when he was at AVW.

Joseph Vinopal – Science Teacher. Taught in China, Delavan, and St. Petes. Taught Sci and SS;

Chris Munson – Parent of SPASH grad and current 6th grader at Washington Elementary. Introduced to governance board by Jeremy Solin. Also serves on Wisconsin Indian Education Association; is member of Oneida Nation. Works as advisor at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau. Serves as PoDS Secretary. Appreciates the interdisciplinary/holistic connections of EL and community building.

Dan Lathrop – Lead Teacher; past EL. Incredibly thankful every day for the work done at PoDS. Working with students who want to be in school with teachers who enjoy their work.

Terry Rothmann – Treasurer of Governance Board. Was part of original discussions; stepped back when part of the school board; original approval by school board when Terry was on.

Brad Van Den Elzen – Governance Board. Not present tonight. Works at UWSP with international students.

Ray Ackerlund – Governance Board. Not present tonight. Works at Skyward.

Connie Negaard – Governance Board, non-voting. With PoDS from the start; one of the initial administrators who helped develop proposal for EL in Stevens Point.

5. OLD BUSINESS (INFORMATION AND/OR ACTION)

A. Minutes from August 3, 2016 regular meeting and interviews

It was moved and seconded (Solin, Rothmann) to approve minutes from August 3, 2016 for Regular Governance Committee as printed.

Motion carried by voice vote 7–yes 0–no.

B. Treasurers Report

Balance is \$9065.18

Incoming:

Rotary for \$200

Okaray for \$2500

Outgoing \$8522 to Lion's Camp

C. Report from Lead Teacher

Expedition Updates – Water is Life

Joseph – What's living in the water (tap, free running, store bought); pH balance; WI River; moving forward – groundwater, connection with plants and animals (including people)

Christopher – Value of water; DAPL; local water issues; starting final products. Well 11 – good social studies and science overlap.

Cameryn – 6th, 7th, 8th grade math plus algebra. Helping Joe with data representations for lab.

Cathy – Literacy, human activities, and impact on water. Reading The Big Thirst. Moving into

research phase – position paper making recommendations on issue (water management w/ industry, govt., w/ athletics, and smaller areas). Also doing poetry.

Collection of all work – portfolio. Students are submitting proposals to present at April conference for Waters of Wisconsin.

Oct 18 and 20 is first student lead conferences

National Conference; Christopher and Dan attending. Dan and Mia are presenting – Survivor: New School Edition.

Crew Council Elections for Officers – President, VP, Secretary, and Treasurer plus crew from each council.

D. Report from Administrative Liaison

E. Lion's Camp Bussing - Defer to November

- F. Monster Dash
All components in place
To-Do
Continue to call sponsors – use google links
Encourage people to sign up
Shirts – MADA will reduce price for Volunteers by \$1. Needs sponsor list and sign up by Friday. How to cushion numbers; main in orange
Volunteers – if same cost, put volunteers in yellow. Jen will get sizes in by Friday.
Runners – 16 main event; 21 for mini
Games – Going fine; collect names of volunteers (Dan will coordinate) from students and family; 6:45 pm to 9 pm.
Volunteers – 10 people signed up
Food –
Price break – change individual run cost to \$15; offer refund to people who already participated; no change to family sign up.
Costume Contest – Check with Sarah

6. NEW BUSINESS (INFORMATION AND/OR ACTION)

- A. EL Contract for 2016-2017
\$41,500
Stevens Point school board paid for 2015-2016 assuming Charter School Grant was not issued to WI SP School Board supports PoDS tremendously as part of district
Conversation with Ryan Maxwell, Regional EL; shared PoDS doubled enrollment, vibrant staff, and excellent expeditions. Connie and Jen explained PoDS cannot afford entire contract. Agreed to \$2500 fee; \$800 slot to EL and Leadership cohort. Negotiated direct days with Mia from 25 to 10. \$19100 contract.
PoDS has a \$4500 credit with EL. With other gifts and expected dollars, PoDS needs to raise \$3500. Able to pay in 2 chunks – once in fall 2016 and August 2017. Ryan will amend contract and send to PoDS for approval.
- B. Special Education Position
Position posted for 0.5 to meet needs of students. Currently have long term sub. Special Ed EA position also posted for 0.5.
- C. Ninth Grade Expansion for 2017-2018
Connie, Brian Casey, and Dan talked about potential for 9th grade expansion. Interest among parents, especially the 8th grade. Engaged in preliminary discussion – to move forward for 2017-2018; many hurdles and challenges. It is logistically possible. What can PoDS do for current 8th graders and then thinking about 7th grade class. Bus to Ben/PJ for language. Need to work with senior high for HS credit.

7. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- i. Monster Dash October 12, 2016 6:30 pm
- ii. Monster Dash October 19, 2016 6:30 pm
- iii. Regular Governance Board November 2, 2016 6:00 pm

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Jen Zach at 8:10 pm.

JEN ZACH, PRESIDENT

JEREMY SOLIN, VICE-PRESIDENT

DATE

