

**POINT OF DISCOVERY SCHOOL
GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 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 6:03 p.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 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		

Ray Ackerlund arrived at 6:30 pm
Andrew Halverson exited at 7:23 pm
Terry Rothmann exited at 7:34 pm

Excused: Brad Van Den Elzen, Jeremy Solin, Ray Ackerlund

Guests: Christopher Heitz, Cathy Barbier, Cameryn Ehlers, Joseph Vinopal

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**It was moved and seconded (Rothmann, Halverson) to approve the agenda.
Motion carried by voice vote 6–yes 0–no.**

4. COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSION WITH PODS STAFF RE I HAVE A DREAM EXPEDITION

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. Gender equality

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. Civil Rights and Racism

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

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.

Kicked off expedition week of Nov. 28

- Merge together 3 themes – Immigrant Equality; Gender Equality; Racial Issues (Driven by I Have a Dream Speech); major reading, writing, social studies, and science.
- Film Festival – finding equipment; people to interview; how to edit
 - Would like more professional than a phone; ideal is to screen movies at theatre
 - Video production course at SPASH; Todd Vanderloop
 - Film Club at UWSP
 - Bill Dehring, former video professor at UWSP

- People at Skyward willing to assist
- WZAW may have interest in helping
- Patty Loew – journalist, filmmaker and professor at UW Madison
- Mary Cayford
- Immigration: starting with American Indians – tribes are different cultures; how immigration impacts people today
 - Could include connection between food/nutrition – Oneida white corn
 - Build parallels through history to today
- Gender – emphasize it is not women’s history
 - Brainstormed topics with students: wage gap, job opportunities, selective service program, child soldiers, domestic violence, male oppression, gender equality in military, gender and culture, education, transgender, lgbtq, feminism, death rituals, STEM
 - Book buddies or book groups; taking suggestions for other books
 - Equality of gender across ages
 - Expert panel; seeking names
 - Terms
 - Create plays/bring to life
 - Class reading: I Am Malala
- Math – how to incorporate into expedition
 - Hour of code; women in STEM
 - Geometry, probability; statistics coming up
 - Students working more self-paced with check lists; allows for differentiated learning
- Civil Rights – I have a dream speech
 - Creating mind maps that link the themes of classrooms
 - Focusing on revision and high quality work
 - Craftsmanship added to habits of success
 - Dissecting speech and will get more information
 - Expect to go into voting rights, Black lives matter
 - Racial Justice Tipping Point/Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice
<http://www.wnpj.org/RJTPCampaign>
 - American Civil Liberties Union – Youth and Community Programs - <http://www.aclu-wi.org/community-education> - Emilio De Torre
 - Personal Responsibility in Health and Wellness
 - Melvin Russo
 - Reach out to police departments
 - How to reach out to people in culturally appropriate ways

5. OLD BUSINESS (INFORMATION AND/OR ACTION)

- A. Minutes from October 5, 2016 regular meeting and interviews
It was moved and seconded (Rothmann, Ackerlund) to approve minutes from October 5, 2016 for Regular Governance Committee as printed.
Motion carried by voice vote 7–yes 0–no.
- B. Treasurers Report
 Balance is \$13, 441.99
 \$4530 held for field work
 Outgoing \$2500 for Monster Dash Tshirts
 Incoming in May 2017: PoDS received \$5000 grant from Community Foundation
- C. Report from Lead Teacher
 Field Work Stock Owners Dinner – Jan 26, 2017; parent group helping
 Seeking more people to purchase stock
 Also invite big ticket donations – Okay
 Volunteer recognition

UWSP Education Dept; bringing in middle school methods course; meeting at PoDS on Jan 4; going to run school on Jan 18

Voyager – 8th/9th grade - looking for partnership in fall 2017; looking at early September

\$4200 per 15 kids; approximately \$400 per student

Transportation needs to be budgeted too

Focus on service to community

Payment options –

Family able to pay

Fundraising structures

Letter writing campaign

Moving forward it would be every other year

6th/7th will attend Lions Camp

D. Report from Administrative Liaison

Meeting with Superintendent to move forward with 9th grade plan

Meeting to re-write contract for board approval with request for additional staff

Discussion to change name to Governance Crew

New School Board Member – <http://www.wisp.k12.wi.us/education/dept/dept.php?sectionid=1212&>

Obtaining new data analytics tool for district and parents

PoDS is on alternative accountability system due to statistically insignificant numbers; all accountability expectations met; can also use WISE dashboard to compare schools -

<http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/Dashboard/portalHome.jsp>

E. Future Fundraising Ideas

Go Fund Me site - <https://www.gofundme.com/>

iGive: Charity Shop - <https://www.igive.com/welcome/lp16/cr64a.cfm>

Community Foundation – link to giving in honor of someone http://www.cfcwi.org/blog_post/point-of-discovery-school-fund/

Parents/Families fundraise for fieldwork

Governance Board fundraise for EL Contract

EL Contract Allocations due in December and May

F. Ninth grade in 2017-2018

Teachers applied to charter school licenses for 9-12

Proposal to expand to 9th grade will come to Governance Board in January and to SP BOE in February 2017.

Intent is to expand to 9th grade for benefit of students and reduced transitions

6. NEW BUSINESS (INFORMATION AND/OR ACTION)

A. Enrollment and Application 2017

Series of Information Nights, SLICE days, and Open Houses in January and February

Open registration around new year

Open to 6th and 7th grade to fill incoming 7th graders – natural transition year

It was moved and seconded (Munson, Ackerlund) to open 2017-2018 PoDS applications in January for incoming 6th and 7th grade students.

Motion carried by voice vote 5-yes 0-no.

B. Staff Hiring 2017

If 9th grade expansion is approved, 2 staff members may expand.

Big picture vision is to have a 6/7 team w/ 4 core teachers and 8/9 team w/ 4 core teachers.

Want to hire the absolute best teachers who embrace the EL model.

C. EL Addendum to 2016-2017 Contract

Contract went from \$41600 to \$19100; fewer days with Mia; next year it is unlikely we will have an EL contract

Benefits of EL is being part of network; robust professional development

Benefits of no EL contract is Dan can provide professional development; many EL resources are online; access to EL conferences still available; allows for flexibility in professional development

It was moved and seconded (Rothmann, Thompson) to approve addendum to the Scope of Service defined in the Cooperation Agreement between PoDS and EL Education from September 1, 2017 to August 13, 2017 with first installation of 9550 due December 31, 2016.

Motion carried by voice vote 6–yes 0–no.

7. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- i. Governance Board January 4, 2017 6:00 pm
- ii. Governance Board February 1, 2017 6:00 pm

8. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Jen Zach at 7:52 pm.

JEN ZACH, PRESIDENT

JEREMY SOLIN, VICE-PRESIDENT

DATE