

Birch Grove Community School

School Board Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2016 at 5:30 pm

Mission: Birch Grove Community School will promote academic excellence utilizing our unique natural setting allowing students to reach their potential, preparing them to become socially and environmentally responsible, self-directed, life long learners.

- 1.0 Call the Meeting to Order: Meeting called to order 5:32pm.
Present: Sara Lizakowski, Sarena Nelson, Kathy Lawrence, Judy Motschenbacher, Skip Lamb, and Ex-Officio Diane Blanchette.
Absent:
Others: Stephanie from VOA and Sheryl Martinsen.
- 2.0 Reading of the Mission Statement: Sara L.
- 3.0 Review and Approve the Agenda: **Motion by Kathy Lawrence, seconded by Sara Lizakowski to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously**
- 4.0 Review and Approve Meeting Minutes from August 24, 2016: **Motion by Sarena Nelson, seconded by Kathy Lawrence to approve the meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 5.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None
- 6.0 Purchase Order Review: In process.
- 7.0 Community Comment: This is an opportunity for the public to address the school board on school-related items in accordance with the guidelines printed on the reverse of this agenda: None
- 8.0 Old Business
 - 8.1 Review Charter School Contract: The board reviewed portions of the contract relevant to NWEA. BGCS is very different from other schools in that goals are set using NWEA instead of MCA's. NWEA is embedded in the charter school contract, school goals – for 4 years, Q-Comp goals, World's Best Workforce goals, school programming (Goal Setting Contracts and awards). BGCS has worked for years with VOA to establish the alternative goals in the contract. The board should have considered the repercussions that a change like this would have. In order to change the assessment, a year of planning with VOA is recommended by Director.
(Skip Lamb arrived at 6:00)
Motion by Sarena Nelson, seconded by Kathy Lawrence, to allow school Authorizer, Stephanie Olsen, to contribute to discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
Stephanie agreed that NWEA is unusually embedded in contract and other aspects. BGCS is the only VOA school that uses NWEA for goals versus MCA's due to small testing size and data privacy. It is believed that BGCS may be the only school in the state that is unique in this way.
 - 8.2 School Director recommendation to rescind implementing FAST testing motion for school assessment, re-approve NWEA/MAP: **Motion by Sara Lizakowski, seconded by Judy Motschenbacher, to reconsider previous motion to change school wide assessment to Fast Bride instead of NWEA and to continue with NWEA-MAPS as the local assessment. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 9.0 New Business
 - 9.1 Annual Site Visit from VOA – Stephanie Olsen present for the meeting and will be on site tomorrow for the annual fall visit.
- 10.0 Approve Purchase Orders: **Motion by Kathy Lawrence, seconded by Sarena Nelson, to approve purchase orders. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 11.0 Birch Grove Community School – Next school board meeting Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 5:30pm
- 12.0 Adjourn. **Motion to adjourn at 6:30pm by Skip Lamb, seconded by Kathy Lawrence. Motion passed unanimously.**