

Natural Science Academy

A school named for environmentalist Michael Frome

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NSA Vision: Through its “Nature Immersion” curriculum, Natural Science Academy will:

Provide an exemplary elementary science program.

Cultivate and grow each student’s connection to the natural world.

Foster creative and critical thinking.

Create and sustain a safe, supportive, nurturing community in which to learn, explore and grow.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 30, 2015

6:15 p.m.

Meeting Location: NSA

I. Call to order

The Board Meeting of Natural Science Academy was called to order at 6:15 PM on June 30, 2015.

Members Present: Jennifer Strong, Penny Barnes, Laura Duffey,

Ex-officio: Traci LaFerriere- Business Manager, Kendra Hunding- Ex-officio

Members and Ex-officio Absent: Suzanne Fried

Visitors: Steve Allwine

Reading of the NSA Vision

b. Jennifer Strong read the vision.

c. Recognize Laura Duffey, Brian and Lynn for assisting in moving the logs in the school yard.

II. Visitors/Non-agenda Items

Recognize Steve Allwine as a visitor.

III. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Penny Barnes, seconded by Jennifer Strong, motion passes.

IV. Consent Items

The following items were approved with a single vote:

- a. **Approval of May 19, 2015 school board meeting minutes.**
- b. **Approval of May 19, 2015 annual meeting minutes.**
- c. **Approval of June 1, 2015 special school board meeting minutes.**
- d. **Approve Early Enrollment Policy**
- e. **Appoint new board members: Steve Allwine (parent), Jill Best (parent), Angela McGuire (community member), Mary Devine**

(community member), Laura Duffey (parent), Jennifer Strong (teacher), Judy Malmon (community member).

Moved by Jennifer Strong, seconded by Penny Barnes, motion passes.

V. Discussion/Action Items

a. Set board goals

The following goals were discussed. The board will assign tasks and deadlines to some of these goals at the July 21, 2015 school board meeting.

Goal 1. Organize board

Create board calendar that includes meetings, deadlines, dates for policy reviews, etc.

Adopt a Code of Conduct

Create and distribute a Welcome Packet to new board members that will include by-laws, policies, most recent Annual Report, Charter agreement, etc.

Goal 2. Retain families

Create ways to connect board with families

Welcome new and existing families

Board presence at school events

Rethink Annual Meeting to be more appealing for families

Conduct school-wide events for families (e.g. dance night, Wild for Science night, Trunk or Treat, etc.)

Improve transparency (e.g. list all NSA policies on NSA website)

Goal 3. Promote monthly professional development for board members

Ex: each person reads a chapter of the Board University handbook and comes

prepared to discuss at next meeting, do regular board self-evaluations, dedicate time at board meetings to share other PD opportunities from ACNW, etc.

Goal 4. Enroll new families (marketing)

Write articles, press releases, maintain FaceBook page, etc.

Goal 5. Connect board with school

At each board meeting, school staff will share a story about student activities, achievements, or other school-related news.

b. Board presence at summer events

Table to administrator report.

VI. Reports

a. Financial Report

The board reviewed the May Balance Sheet, Income Statement, Cash Flow Schedule, and Payment Register.

b. Administrator Report

Enrollment is looking very good for the 2015-2016 school year. There is a waiting list for the (2) K/1 and (1) 2/3 classrooms.

Summer Events- Pioneer Days August 9th and St. Paul Park Heritage days August 15th and 16th

Garden Club started in June.

Kendra shared MAP data and how we use it. These results showed they did very well throughout the year in specific areas.

We received a grant \$500 from Audubon to purchase digital cameras.

c. Mission Moment

Included in with Administrator Report.

d. School Yard

Last Saturday there was a quickly planned moving day for the logs in the school yard. We may have a possible compost bin going to be donated to us by a community member who no longer uses it. In October there will be a school yard clean-up and there will continue to be one on Earth Day each year.

VII. Board Committee Action/Deadline

Plan July 21, 2015 board meeting agenda:

Consent Items:

Approve June 30 minutes

Vote on new officers

Set board director terms

Discussion Items

Regarding board goals, assign tasks & set deadlines to most of goals.

Start board calendar

Q&A time for new board members

Orient new members to board/watch NSA overview powerpoint

Reports:

Mission milestone/Administrator report

Academic achievement, staff changes, grants, other achievement, enrollment news, etc.

Financial – There will be no financial report in July

School Yard

VIII. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Submitted,

Jennifer Strong, Teacher Board Member