



Sugar Maple Nature School Governance Council Meeting Agenda

Date and Time

Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 6pm **HYBRID Meeting**


Attendance: Brian Fortney, Michelle Travis, Korinne Haeffel-Petersen, Adam Eader (6:10), Cindy Raimer

This is a meeting of the Sugar Maple Nature School Governance Council in public for the purpose of conducting the School's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda. More than 24 hours prior to the meeting, notice of the time, place, date and subject matter of this meeting was posted at the entrance doors at Riveredge Nature Center and the Sugar Maple Nature School. A copy was also posted on the school website and sent to the Northern Ozaukee School District.

Agenda

- I. Opening Items
 - A. Call the Meeting to Order
 - B. Record Attendance

- II. Public Comment
 - A. Pre-Meeting Written Public Comments

- III. Policy Development
 - A.  PolicyLists.xlsx
 - B. First Read
 1. 2416 - No issues
 2. 5530 - No issues
 3. 8120 - No issues
 4. 8141 - No issues
 5. 8315 - Will necessitate that Cindy adapt these for Administrative Guidelines to staff
 6. 8390 - No issues
 7. 8462 - No issues
 8. 8462.01 - No issues
 9. 9130 - No issues
 10. 9150 - No issues
 11. 9160 - No issues
 12. 9210 - No issues
 13. 9211 - No issues
 14. 9250 - No issues - Needs reoption
 15. 9500 - No issues
 16. 9555 - No issues

17. 9600 - No issues
18. 9700 - No issues Michelle Travis Can you take a look at this one?
19. 9700.01 - No issues

IV. Conflict of Interest Questionnaire

- A. [2023-2024 Riveredge Outdoor Learning conflicts of Interest Questionnaire.docx](#)
 1. Outstanding
 2. Outstanding

V. SMNS Website Transition

- A. Bonfire Overview
 1. Launch in November during enrollment drive
- B. SMNS status

VI. GC Committee Discussion

- A. Group Charges
 1. Need teacher input for Teaching and Learning Committee charge
 2. Identify areas that need additional funding
- B. Recruitment Needs
- C. Need to establish a formal parental advisory group per our charter

VII. Committee Reports

- A. Financial
 1. Accounting Services
 - a) Probably going to go with a more generic accounting solutions unless we are required to have a third party
 2. 2022-2023 Audit status
 - a) A few open items left
 3. Budget & 5yr Forecast Development
 - a) Presuming increasing enrollment over the next 5 years, this year is likely the tightest.
 - b) Still crucial for weather any enrollment changes, enhance and adding programming
 4. Grant & Foundation Needs
 - a) Need to identify what our needs are going to be, and then target grants and fundraising to fill those needs.
- B. Facilities and Operations
 1. Status update on new location negotiations
 - a) Met with Andrew and was able to clarify a lot of the questions from the lease agreement. Did not have some of the numbers that we were seeking with regards to WEnergies, the county, etc.
 - b) He's confident that we should have everything in place to start school in the fall.
- C. Exec Committee
 1. Nothing to share since our last meeting.
- D. PTO
 1. Korinne and Ryan were able to meet with PTO Officers last night in the yurts for an hour and a half to discuss the MOU
 2. There is an impression that the MOU is punitive in nature, but that is not the intent.
 3. The purpose of the MOU is to be transparent and clear about priorities of both groups and lay out how the two groups can work together to continue to support the school.

VIII. Closed Session

Motion to go into Closed Session

- a. The exemption in Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(g) authorizes a closed session to discuss legal counsel advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.
- b. Pursuant to section 19.85 (1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.
 - i. Motion to go into closed session: Michelle Travis
 - ii. Second: Adam Eader
 - 1. Roll Call Vote:
 - a. Brian Fortney - Aye
 - b. Michelle Travis - Aye
 - c. Adam Eader - Aye
 - d. Korinne Haeffel - Aye
 - iii. Motion to go into open session: Brian Fortney
 - iv. Second: Michelle Travis
 - 1. Roll Call Vote:
 - a. Brian Fortney - Aye
 - b. Michelle Travis - Aye
 - c. Adam Eader - Aye
 - d. Korinne Haeffel - Aye

IX. Items up for vote from closed session

X. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

- 1. Motion to adjourn: Brian Fortney
- 2. Second: Michelle Travis
- 3. Motion carried unanimously

Governance Council (GC) Meetings

The GC hosts business meetings on the 2nd Thursday of each month, and working meetings the 4th Thursday of the month starting at 6pm.