

Governance Council Minutes
Verona Area International School
VAIS-LMC
Monday, April 10, 2023

Attendance

Sally Parks, Grace Flores, Kelly Gibson, Brandon Braithwaite, James Kokalj, Yingying Reiter, Charles James, Steve Kean, Evan Henderson, Teresa Mueller, Patty Immanuella

Virtually: Joanne Mueller,

Also attending: Katie Bhandare (virtually), Jennifer Tzeng (virtually)

Absent:

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Approval of March minutes. Brandon moved to approve the minutes, Steve seconded. Motion carries- minutes are approved.

Director's report - See attached April 2023 Report [Directors Report](#) S. Parks

- a. Confucius Classroom
- b. Staffing
- c. Continuous Improvement Plans for 23-24 School Year

This is a district-wide undertaking. We will be asked to participate and provide suggestions for improvement or changes in the curriculum.

- d. Professional Development

Heading into summer, the staff would like to do some curriculum work this summer in anticipation of the CIP next year. They will be attending workshops/seminars geared toward this over the spring and summer.

- e. Community Gathering

Friday, April 21st. Heidi Konop will help support, and Sarah Shaw will MC. The parent engagement committee will provide snacks/coffee for parents.

Evolving Transition Policy

J. Kokalj/S. Parks

Discussion of the transition from grade school to middle school. The district is working to make sure that all students have the same opportunities when they are making this transition. Staff members from the middle schools will be visiting the elementary schools and families will have an opportunity to go visit the schools.

We discussed the possibility of having the middle schools doing some education and outreach to parents with incoming middle schoolers to answer questions and discuss the transition.

Election Season

J. Kokalj

It is election season and we have several seats open. We will send out the email soliciting nominations, and will have the voting concluded in time for the June meeting.

Review Charter and Bylaws (Appendix C & Article V)

J. Kokalj

Article V

-this calls for the option to conduct an audit, termination criteria, and Appendix C, which includes the VAIS strategic roadmap. This discusses what we have done and continue to do to recruit a broad cultural and socio-economic student body.

Committee Reports & Strategic Planning Updates

Budget Committee

E. Henderson

The committee has been working with the budget. They plan to use cost centers that align with the district in order to utilize the district forms for budgeting purposes.

Evan will work with the committee chairs to get budget requests in for each committee.

They are considering moving some of the funds into something with some interest earning capabilities.

Fundraising Committee

J. Mueller

The committee is planning to meet on 4/15 to set the agenda for the rest of the year. They have raised approximately \$17,000 to date.

Picnic date is Thursday, May 11th.

Outreach Committee

K. Gibson

Parent Engagement

J. Tzeng

Parent Engagement Committee

Past Successes:

Parent/Teacher Conference meals for teachers

Mom's Night Out

Babysitter List/Alumni Connections

Upcoming Activities:

National Library Week

volunteers needed for reading, April 28 Community Gathering and Volunteer Appreciation, April 21

Teacher Appreciation Week May 8-12

Amazon Wish List

Food donations

Parade, June 4th

Volunteers Needed - Coordinate with Outreach

End of Year Picnic- Coordinate with Fundraising

School Climate

No updates

Other Business

J. Kokalj

Update on China trip: they have a contact with a middle school in China. They are working on one for high school.

Yingying was invited to be a guest lecturer for a Mandarin teaching webinar. Congratulations, Yingying!

Motion to Adjourn by Yingying Reiter. Meeting adjourned at 8:35.