

**Governance Council Minutes**  
**Verona Area International School**  
VAIS-LMC  
Monday, June 13, 2022

**Attendance**

James Kokalj, Ann Princl, Grace Flores, Charles James, Teresa Mueller, Dave Kassa, Cindy Grady,

Virtually: Sally Parks, Yingying Reiter, Tracy Doeppers, Darlene Berkowitz, Sarah Shaw, Joanne Mueller

Absent: Catherine Tang, Sara Beuthein, Steve Kean

Meeting called to order at 6:36 p.m.

Welcome to our new director, Sally Parks. Sally was VAIS' first part time director, and has spent her time in education and as a principal since her time with the school. We are thrilled to have her back. Welcome, Sally!

Approval of May minutes. Cindy moved to approve the minutes, James seconded. Motion carries- minutes are approved.

**Director's Report**

Enrollment is currently slated to be 126, with 2 incoming spots available in K, and two in 4th grade.

Staff updates- we have a new art teacher and a new school psychologist, but their names will not be announced yet. Sally will be hiring for a couple of part-time positions available in July.

Review of data from this past year. We worked on improving speaking proficiency, to bring students back to pre-pandemic skill levels. We had a data team for the first time, which allowed for a deeper dive into the data, to determine where the needs lie in the building for student learning.

Great gains were made in English, with a proficiency level of 88%. Students needing urgent intervention is down to 1%. We will continue to work on STAMP results to meet proficiency goals.

K orientation took place in May. The students were excited to be here and enjoyed the tour of the school. The families received a PDF copy of the powerpoint from the orientation.

The charter renewal process is done on our end. It has been sent to DPI, and they have not expressed any concerns, so we should be complete with that process.

Yingying will be attending some CARLA continuing education training this summer. The mandarin teachers also will have some curriculum development time over the summer, thanks to a grant that they applied for and won.

SCUN grant money is in our account and we have been able to use it for various aspects of our Chinese learning throughout the year.

The dragon boat festival took place along with field day. This utilized some of the SCUN funds. The students enjoyed this fun event.

Ann will have one more meeting with Clarissa Sun, and will keep in touch with Sally Parks regarding the discussions that take place.

Budget discussion- we reviewed the proposed budget. Our funds come from the district (\$12,000), the SCUN grant (\$20,000) and fundraising (\$20,000.) The budget is created based on this total, and we are able to continue to operate within our budget and meet all of our curricular needs.

We have one summer playdate set for 8/8 5:30- 6:30. It will be popsicles on the playground at the school, and parents are invited to attend the GC meeting after the playdate.

We discussed doing some kind of welcome back night, or supply drop off, which would also serve as a way to meet the new director.

Homecoming parade for fall of 2022. The high school mandarin teacher would like to connect with us to have a group of K-12 students all work together to participate as one big group. Parent engagement normally assigns the parent coordinator.

Upcoming GC meetings will remain on the second Monday of every month. Sally can make this work with her schedule. The meetings will remain hybrid (in-person and on zoom.)

Ann expressed her heartfelt gratitude for all of the warm well-wishes, gifts, notes and cards. The GC presented her with a gift basket from the governance council members. The GC is grateful for Ann's leadership and we will miss her and wish her all the best!

#### GC Election results

The new GC parent reps will be Teresa, James, Kelly and Patty.

We discussed moving Cindy Grady to the graduate rep position, and appointing Brandon Braithwaite to the remaining one year of her term. Teresa moved to appoint him to that seat, and Joanne seconded the motion. The motion carried. Grace will let everyone know of the results.

#### **Budget committee**

Following our earlier budget discussions, Teresa moved to approve the proposed 2022-23 budget. James Kokalj seconded the motion. The motion carries and the budget is approved.

#### **Fundraising committee**

- The readathon raised over \$2,000
- The end of year picnic raised \$150 for the silent auction
- The total for this year is \$28,483.

## **Outreach**

- No new updates

## **School Climate**

- No updates- will consider combining this committee with parent engagement, as there is a lot of cross-over between the two committees, and low attendance on both.

## **Parent engagement**

- Tiffani will take over as the new chair of the committee. Thank you to Cindy Grady for her efforts as the outgoing chair.

We do have the new parent rep spot available. If anyone knows of any new parents who would be interested in serving in this role please encourage them to reach out.

Dave Kassa motioned to adjourn. Yingying seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.