

**Governance Council**  
**Verona Area International School**  
Via [Zoom](#)

Monday, February 12, 2024  
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

James Kokalj, Pres.  
Patty Arifin, V. Pres.  
Brandon Braithwaite,  
Secretary.  
Evan Henderson,  
Treasurer

VAIS Staff  
Sally Parks, Director  
Yingying Reiter  
Sarah Shaw

Parent Representatives  
Aaron Edwards-Miller  
Kelly Gibson  
Steve Kean  
Zachary Mordh

Also Attending  
Yumeng Wang  
Jennifer Tzeng

- | <u>Agenda</u>   | <u>Presenter</u> |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Welcome (5 mins)   | J. Kokalj        |
| 2. <a href="#">Approval of Minutes</a> (5 min)  | J. Kokalj        |
| <b>Motion by Brandon, Second by Kelly. Motion passes.</b>   |                  |
| 3. Site Based Leadership Team Update (10 min)   | Y. Wang          |
| a. <a href="#">Act 20 Review</a>  |                  |
| <b>Most of law written around K-5</b>   |                  |
| <b>School setting important:</b>  |                  |
| - use of approved early literacy curriculum   |                  |
| - Single statewide reading readiness screener   |                  |
| - Required reading training (VASD all K-3 reading teachers are doing a 36 training)   |                  |
| - Local reading remediation plan (VASD-wide plan)   |                  |
| - Personal reading plan   |                  |
| Below 25 <sup>th</sup> percentile gets more attention (usually 25-75 percentile considered average)   |                  |
| - for sake of the law, 25th percentile is the trigger point, but that may be targeted above that minimum threshold within the school  |                  |
| Within the school: Mandarin immersion does limit the most important resource for learning English reading in school: time   |                  |
| Science-based early reading instruction is defined in the law and should be followed  |                  |
| VAIS is working on many points to meet Act 20 requirements, including implementing Sondag and Heggerty and using Foundations, professional learning, and Mandarin Language Arts progressions for bridging |                  |
| 4. <a href="#">Directors Report</a> (30 min)  | S. Parks         |
| a. Reading Corps Tutor  |                  |
| <b>Have Reading Corps volunteer and she is already working with kids</b>  |                  |
| b. Professional Development   |                  |

- Working on reviewing math and reading assessments and SAEBRS screeners (and preparations for Act 20)

- Mandarin: started Speaking progressions for K-5 alignment (lots of work put into this)

c. Mandarin Curriculum Update

Mandarin Matrix physical materials have arrived

d. SAEBRS Screener

(Social, Academic, Emotional, Behavior Risk Screener) – Teachers completed at the end of January

e. Family Conferences

They have begun

f. Outreach Plans

- “In the Loop with the Sup” is online

- Minischool was 1/27, went well

- No additional tour requests at this point

- Outreach materials were at both Lunar New Year celebrations

- Central Office Admins also shared info at Reach Dane last Thursday

- Charter School Lottery enrollment is until 2/14 (they will consider later applicants based on space)

- K enrollment is down district-wide

- District will reconsider configuration of incoming K info night in the future

g. VAIS Enrollment

5. Committee Reports Updates (20 min)

a. Budget Committee

E. Henderson

i. VAIS\_Budget 2023-24

Not yet received Confucius Classroom Grant—hoping it will come soon after the holidays

Culver’s deposit has come in.

1,045.16 in checking account

Money market interest total: \$134.02 over last 4 months

\$169.11 in interest from CD in two months.

- What happens with money inflows from buying VAIS signs? Treasurer gets deposit notice and tells outreach and the sign is delivered and when that ends, it is deposited in the bank account and entered into fundraising spreadsheet—individual line item there and goes into fundraising total.

b. Fundraising Committee

Culver's fundraiser raised \$780.50

c. Outreach Committee

K. Gibson

Meeting next Monday 7:30 via Zoom

d. Parent Engagement

J. Tzeng

Celebrating Past Successes:

- All signups ready for Feb Newsletter on time!
- Dec Mom's Night Out - Moms had a lot of fun! Thanks to Kendall for organizing.
- Social Media
  - Community Gathering FAQ and follow up recording
  - Lunar New Year posts
- Parent Engagement paused events for Jan/Feb. Lots of volunteers for recruitment events
  - Jenn worked with Ms Parks to coordinate volunteers for Spring Showcase, such as greeters, photographers and info booth

Upcoming Activities:

- March Parents Night Out - will occur on weekend if both parents want to come; TBD
- April Family Event - TBD
- Classroom Parties - Spring - **Jenn**
  - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C44A9A828A4FA7-46245694-classroom#/>
  - Got at least 1 volunteer for each classroom! Need a few more for the older grades. Will adjust sign ups in future to just 2 volunteers for each class for older grades.
- Conference Meals for Staff - Jenn
  - Partnered with NCS for potluck
  - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094DAAAAA29A4FD0-47415001-ncsvais#/>

6. Other Business (5 min)

J. Kokalj

7. Adjourn

Kelly motioned to adjourn at 7:51