



**MINUTES**  
**VSWEA Board of Directors Meeting**  
Wednesday, September 27, 2023  
VIA [Zoom](#)

**Members Present:**

April Sauer (AS)—Secretary  
Dan Franks (DF)—Treasurer  
John Tanner (JT)

Danielle Martinez (DM)  
Ashley Parks (AP)

**Members Absent: Ben Fong, Kerstin Kubina, Nellie Grossenbacher, and Myriah Mhoon**

The Treasurer and Secretary were present, and a quorum was reached.

**Guests**

Invitees of the Board:  
Frank Mirizio (FM)  
Paula Cummings (PC)

Members of the public present via Zoom/Registration through Google Forms:

Parker  
Kelsey Orosz and William Dyer  
Kristen  
Laura Heaney

deb  
tammy/tom  
Josh Wagner  
Michelle Kratzer

**Opening Verse/Introductions**

Meeting was called to order at 6:50pm. DF read the opening verse.

The Board members introduced themselves as well as FM and PC.

**Executive Director Updates**

FM Our enrollment is down to 270, and we budgeted for 285. We now have four kids starting on Monday. Working with Monique to watch the budget closely. There are things we can't control like fixing AC's, taking out beehives, and hauling out trees that fell during the storm. We have one job opening left—the fundraising position. We formed a committee to help with recruiting—PC, Christie Martin, Nellie, and three high school students. We worked on a tri-fold to get that out there into the public in various ways. Dr. Darian visited two elementary schools today to create a relationship with the directors to have those kids feed into DMS. We have a few more schools we want to connect with as well. Capital projects are going well. Hector and Luis are putting in a ceramic patio. We'll have the kiln out there, and we'll officially be moved out of the old woodshop. Madam St. Hilaire has been a great help to us in this project. The sustainable account is at about 38k. We spent about 12k on our longevity stipend for teachers who have been here 8 years or longer. I recommend we use the sustainable fund for the ads so it doesn't

upset the budget. Half days for the rest of the week with Parent/Teacher conferences. Our scheduling is up from last year which is good. Friday is Michaelmas in the morning. The weather has been awesome in the morning, so it should be a great time, and I hope to see lots of you there.

AP Can you send us a copy of that flyer? I'd love to see it.

FM Of course.

### Financial Update

DF Shared the Balance Sheet on his screen and went through our accounts. Total liabilities and equity are at 4,122,904. Shared screen to show Profit and Loss and reviewed the document.

### Proposed Motions

DF moved to approve the 08/16/23 regular meeting minutes. AS second. No further discussion. Votes in favor: DF, AS, DM, AP, JT. **Motion passes.**

AS moved to elect Daniel Franks as a Charter Representative for the VSWEA with the AZ State Board of Charter Schools. JT second. The following discussion took place:

DM and AS discuss the position.

Unanimous vote in favor: DF, AS, DM, AP, JT. **Motion passes.**

AS moved to approve the new Bullying and Harassment Policy which will replace the Policy for Bullying Prevention in the Parent/Student Handbook. DF second. No further discussion. Votes in favor: DF, AS, DM, AP. Opposed: JT. **Motion passes.**

DM and FM discuss the policy as it relates to employees and training for employees.

AS moved that the Board of Directors allocates board restricted funds to respond to our communities' need to support and build an inclusive environment through strategic DEI planning, community contemplation, training, and learning opportunities starting with the recommendations made in the new Bullying and Harassment Policy. AP second. No further discussion. Votes in favor: DF, AS, DM, AP. Opposed: JT. **Motion passes.**

AP, AS, and FM discuss the plan moving forward to fund these projects.

AS I will upload the new policy on the website.

PC Will you be covering that with staff?

FM I will post the new policy to the staff and cover it at a staff meeting.

### Continuing Business/Open Issues

### Strategic Goals

DF Table this topic for next meeting.

### Survey

DF Table this topic for next meeting.

### Board Applications

AS I'll send out a reminder this Friday. Applications are due October 1<sup>st</sup>. We do interviews on November 1<sup>st</sup> and vote on November 18<sup>th</sup>. That's all I have on applications.

### Calendars

AS I've put our calendar in the folder for review. I've already created the calendar for 2024. Please take a look and see if I missed anything, and if you have any questions please let me know.

### **New Business**

#### AFR

DF moved to approve the AFR report and send it in. AS second. No further discussion. Votes in favor: DF, AS, AP, JT, DM. **Motion passes.**

FM This requires signatures. She needs it in 3-4 days. I recommend we get this done in the next couple days.

DF Yes, I'll connect with Kerstin and get that done.

### **Announcements**

DF The next board meeting is 10/18 at 6:30pm via Zoom.

AS moved to adjourn the 09/27/23 meeting. DF second. No further discussion. Unanimous vote in favor: DF, AS, DM, AP, JT. **Motion passes.**

### **Closing Verse**

AP read the closing verse.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm.

Prepared by AS on 09.27.2023.