



Potomac Elementary School

School Board Minutes

For
April 27, 2020

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*“Potomac School equips each student for his/her future
within a culture of excellence that values the small community experience.”*

Call to Order

Chair Vann called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm by leading all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustees present included Kelsy Ployhar, Gary Long, and Nichole Zupan, trustee Steven Van Grinsven attended remotely via Zoom. John Rouse, Principal and Clerk, Heather Marcella, were also in attendance.

Public Input (for issues not on the agenda) None.

In preparation for the Special Board Meeting Chair Cliff Vann emailed the Board of Trustees.

On Apr 22, 2020, at 7:03 PM, Cliff Vann wrote:

Board members,

I'd like us to be prepared to adequately represent the community in our consideration to reopen school on 5/11. How do you feel about each of us identifying 10 families that we each reach out to by Friday evening?

We can simply ask them to share and consider concerns they'd have about reopening. By reaching out in advance we should help everyone feel heard, and have a more effective session Monday evening. Our job is to represent the community, so please be open to feedback as opposed to trying to advance a position.

I'm considering asking the following questions:

- Share that we will deliberate on Monday, 4/27. Consider collecting emails for anyone that would like to attend Monday's Zoom meeting remotely.
- What are your thoughts about school opening on 5/11?
- Can you share action items that would help you feel safer in this decision?
- Are you aware of the Governor's announcement? Can I share it with you via email?
- Please think about this situation and reach out to me with thoughts before Monday evening.

If you would please, develop a list of 10 families you will be responsible for reaching out to. I've developed my list below. John can then review our combined list of 10 families each and ensure we've identified all school families.

Heather, please keep this as a public document to include in our minutes.

Board members, please refrain from discussion on this topic with other board members your willingness to reach out to families and a list. Our decision needs to be made in public, and we can not use email to chat about this ahead of time.

Thanks,
Cliff Vann
Board Chair
Potomac School – District 11

Consideration of reopening Potomac School District #11 per Governor Bullock’s April 22, 2020 Directive implementing executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 and guidance for the phased reopening of Montana.

The Board discussed reopening Potomac School. Trustees shared the input they received from families.

Kelsy moved to not reopen Potomac School for the remainder of the year. Steven seconded the motion. **Passed 5-0**

Consideration of declaring Unforeseen Emergency to continue through June 30, 2020, based on Covid-19 Risks

Kelsy moved for the Board of Trustees to declare an unforeseen emergency within the meaning of the term as set forth in Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 8, to become immediately effective and to continue through June 30, 2020. The motion is based on Covid-19 risks; in recognition that the Governor’s waiver of student instruction time will expire on May 7; and in recognition that the Governor’s April 22, 2020 Directive implicating Executive Orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 specifies that elected school boards and their districts that adopt their own declaration of emergency will continue to receive all state funding, including transportation funding. Nichole seconded the motion. **Passed 5-0**

Adjourn

Chair Vann adjourned the Board meeting at 7:37 pm.

Cliff Vann, Chair

date

Heather Marcella, Clerk

date