

Fiddlehead Board minutes August 25, 2025

Approved by the Fiddlehead Board on Sept 25, 2025

Meeting via Zoom only.

1. Meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Doughty at 6:05 PM
2. A quorum of members was present that included: Joanne d'Archangelo, Bruce Woodard, Kaiti Lewis, Marie Reimensnyder, Becky Scott, Roger Preston and Bill Doughty.
3. Staff present: Jacinda Cotton-Castro, Executive Director; Jason Manjourides, principal
4. Mission statement: Becky Scott read the mission statement to keep us focused.
5. Introductions: Board and staff members present introduced themselves and their impressive backgrounds.
6. Ice breaker: Joanne d'Archangelo shared her skills by organizing an ice breaker in which those present selected a question to answer and shared their response. The answers were revealing and hopeful.
7. Minutes approval: Becky moved and Roger seconded to approve the minutes from the 6/12/25 meeting. Motion was approved 7-0
8. Financial Reports:
 - a. Susan Persenaire, our business administrator, and Flaherty Financial Services, our accounting firm, have worked to clarify and verify financial information up until March 31, 2025 in the previous fiscal year.
 - b. Jacinda noted some financial bumps from last year and applauded the good work done on the Quarter 3 report.
 - c. End of year financial report will be ready for the Sept. meeting
 - d. The budget figure shown is for the full year.
 - e. This report is quite late. The goal is to have a reviewed report at each meeting.
 - f. Report drafts are reviewed by the Finance Committee, Jacinda, and Bill before going to the full Board.
 - g. Draft Board Calendar Dates
 - i. Adjusted Sept. date to Sept. 25
 - ii. Jacinda to Zoom in on Oct. 16th
9. Executive Director's Report
 - i. Enrollment is strong with ~200 students expected, including expanded pre-K program
 - ii. Seeking to fill licensed clinical social worker position
 - iii. New student/family orientation on 8/28, open house moved to 9/18
 - iv. Holding off hiring 3rd sped teacher
 - v. Enrollment is strong. Monitoring preK enrollment
10. Principal's report
 - a. New student/family orientation on 8/28
 - b. Staff professional development days 8/28-8/31
 - c. First day of school 9/2
 - d. Open house moved to 9/18 (2 weeks after school starts)
 - e. Praise for Susan Persenaire as business administrator
 - f. Shout out to the custodial staff for their good work.

- g. Oriented staff to outdoor education sites
 - h. Emphasizing the first six weeks of school.
 - 11. Board policy and forms workshop
 - a. New and returning board members introduced themselves
 - b. Reviewed board member roles, responsibilities, and key policies
 - c. Discussed need for more formal onboarding process for new members
 - 12. Executive Session to discuss personnel items
 - a. Joanne moved and Roger seconded to enter executive session. Motion carried 7 to 0.
 - b. The Board returned from executive session.
 - 13. Joanne moved and Roger seconded to hire the staff as recommended.
 - a. **Bus Driver**
 - b. Candidate: Tim Sanborn

 - c. **Teacher Assistant – 8th Grade**
 - d. Candidate: Michael Turner

 - e. Motion carried 6 to 0.
14. Marie moved and Roger seconded to adjourn. Motion carried by acclamation.