

*"Rekindling our hope, exploring our world, seeking our path, while building our community"*

## **Board Meeting – Northwest Passage High School #4049 5/20/2025**

Board members in attendance: Robin Clarkson, Drew Klitzke, Steven Rippe, Jason Olson, Jeff Schommer

Others in attendance: Peter Wieczorek, Amy Gale, Steph Suehr

Absent: Susan Becker, Jolene Stolpestad, Sara Anderson, Heidi Wold

**Call to order:** 5:31 pm

**Mission Statement:** "Rekindling our hope, exploring our world, seeking our path, while building our community." - Jason Olson

**Conflict of Interest-** none

**Approval of April Board Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve the April minutes was made by Stephen Rippe and seconded by Drew Klitzke. *No discussion. Motion passes*

**Public Comment:** None

**Treasurer's Report:** Attached are the financial statements for April. Here are some things to consider when looking at the reports:

- **Average Daily Membership (ADM) Overview-**
  - **Original Budget: 155**
  - **Working Budget: 155**
  - **YTD Actual: 152.26**
- **The school's original budget projects a net income for FY25 of \$89,585, which is a projected cumulative fund balance of \$1,059,494 or 37% of total expenditures at fiscal year-end.**
- **Projected Days Cash on Hand for the fiscal year-end is 122 days.**

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for April was made by Robin Clarkson and seconded by Steven Rippe. *No discussion. Motion passes*

### **Director's Report:**

**May 20, 2025**

#### *A. Program Highlights*

- **Expeditions**
  - New Mexico
  - Duluth
  - South Dakota

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- Wisconsin Transportation
- ACT Testing - Average score 20, 16 participants, 26 high score (Average for MN was 20)
- Conferences (waiting for 1, still making up, on average 83% success rate)
- Explore Your World - Great turnout, lots of donations, ~\$4000- May 3rd, 2025
  - Thanks to the staff for their hard work on donations and running the event. Money for gear and staff training.
- Building Hope Conference- Presented on HOPE Work (Peter)
- Project, Pedagogy and Play Conference
  - Canada, Mexico, and Colombia was there
- MACS Board
- Upcoming Events
  - Talent Show and Art Gallery
  - May Term
  - Graduation - June 5th

#### *Enrollment/Recruiting*

- May 13th-
  - 4 families with 6 potential students, 3 already signed up and 3 are coming with a walk through
- Local Digital Newspaper
  - Email Marketing - Shared with Board
- Web Redesign
- Senior Spotlights

#### *Authorizer Updates*

- Annual visit
- Annual meeting
- Meeting May 21 - Grade expansion
- Review contract - June meeting

#### *Legislative Updates*

- *Special Session*
- *Charter School Funding*

#### **Old Business- none**

#### **New Business**

##### **A. Review and Approve Board Election-**

- Jeff Schommer motioned to approve the motion, and Robin Clarkson seconded.  
*No discussion. Motion passes*

##### **B. Open Board Position- Community Member.**

C. Library Policy- First Read

D. Review Board Survey Results

E. Online Program Update- Stephanie Suehr and Peter

- Reviewed Stephanie's online presentation
- Next Steps- ask more questions- general budget
  - Liability insurance
  - Sustainability
  - Enrollment
  - Etc.

F. Proposed Name Change- Survey Results

- Staff-
  - Northwest Passage School of Innovation
  - Northwest Passage Experiential School
  - Northwest Passage Experiential
- All students-
  - Northwest Passage Community School
  - Northwest Passage Experiential
  - Northwest Passage School of Innovation
  - What is your rating? Something to consider....
    - i. **\*\*Northwest Passage - A community school for experiential learning.**

G. Enrollment

- Intent to Return - 120 complete - Returning
- Goals for 2025-26
  - i. +170 students
    - 1. Headwaters 32-40 (2-3 advisories) 10 (32) = 22
    - 2. Rivers 112 (7 advisories) 86 (112) = 26
    - 3. Delta 16+ (1 advisory) 16 (16) = 0
    - 4. Online 16+ 2 (16+) = 14
    - 5. 62 short

H. Computer Purchases prior to July 1, 2025

- Jeff Schommer motioned to approve the motion, and Drew Klitzer seconded. To approve the purchase of 16 computers for \$16,286.00 of computers. *No discussion. Motion passes*

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**Future Agenda Items**

- A. Student Handbook Updates
- B. Budget 2024-25 Revision (June)
- C. Budget Approval 2025-26
- D. July Board Meeting (?)
- E. Online Program Update- Stephanie Suehr and Peter
  - a. Next Steps- ask more questions- general budget

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- i. Liability insurance
  - ii. Sustainability
  - iii. Enrollment
- b. Etc.

Reflection

**Adjournment** - *Motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Schommer and seconded by Steven Rippe. No discussion, motion passes.*

Adjourned: 7:24pm

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Jason Olson, Board Chair

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Robin Clarkson, Secretary