

Fond du Lac Ojibwe School Board
Regular Meeting
Thursday November 14, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.
Fond du Lac Ojibwe School

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Reading of Mission Statement & Vision
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes
 - Regular Meeting October 3, 2024, Meeting Minutes
6. Review Ledger
7. New Business:

	RA	IPA	
i. Tim Newgard, MWP Recreation			X
ii. MN American Indian State Aid			X
iii. Transportation Needs			X
iv. Strategic Plan			X
8. Old Business:

	RA	IPA	
			I
9. Supervisor Reports:
 - i. Tara Dupuis, Superintendent
 - ii. Valerie Tanner, Principal
 - iii. Blake Ludemann, Education Grants and Accountability Manager
 - iv. Michelle Hamski, Interim Special Education Coordinator
 - v. Mace Fonoti, Kitchen
 - vi. Hailey Martin, Wellness Coordinator
 - vii. Ashley Jaakola, School-wide Activities Supervisor
 - viii. Cameron Thompson, Athletic Manager
 - ix. Dawn LaPrairie, Cultural Coordinator
 - x. Barbara Francis, FACE Coordinator
 - xi. Kathy Nelson, Transportation
10. Other
11. Adjourn

**Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
Superintendent School Board Report
November 14, 2024**

The Mission of the Fond du Lac Ojibwe Schools are dedicated to providing a quality education, which focuses on integrating the Ojibwe culture into all students' learning experiences. Every learner will have the opportunity to be challenged, to succeed, and to be prepared for the future. Parents, staff, community, and students will demonstrate the highest level of expectations for themselves and the school.

OJIBWE SCHOOLS MOTTO
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"Work, study, strive, succeed"

Travel/Trainings:

- TNEC Twin Cities, Anoka Hennepin, Robbinsdale & North St. Paul
- IEFA Leadership Meeting Zoom
- FACE NCFL Zoom meeting.
- Creating Aligned and Coherent Standards Based Instruction

Accomplishments:

- TNEC Twin Cities schools Anoka Hennepin, Robbinsdale & North St. Paul
- FACE feast with Waawaakeyash, 5 families participated.
- Pokey Paro Pow wow was a success.
- Reading Coach hired and started- Danielle Dupuis
- Leadership Meeting
- Met with Superior AIPAC Chair
- Met with Proctor about JOM/Title VI
- Transportation attended the job fair.
- Met FDL community/staff for IEFA.

Challenges:

- Transportation for FACE students/families
- 1 Special Education teacher applicant

Employee updates:

- Danielle Dupuis – Reading Coach
- Nissa Whipple resigned.

Other:

- Live It will be part of our education curriculum for grades 5-12.
- Our CS staff will join the Indigenous Consortium for Minnesota

Goals within your departments for 2024-2025:

- Hire licensed Sped teachers.
- Improve communication.
- Budgets

**Grants & Accountability Manager
School Programs and Facilities
November 14, 2024**

Travel/Trainings:

- Various webinars, Microsoft Teams calls with BIE staff for assistance with their asset management software, Maximo, and many meetings with Dan Anderson.

School Programs Accomplishments:

- Submitted the AGRI Full Tray Farm to School and Early Care Grant for FY2025 for \$10,000.00. (\$5k from USDA, \$5k match) These funds would allow our kitchen to purchase locally produced meat and produce from farms on the reservation and across Minnesota. The more local the better!
- Plan to submit the National School Lunch Program Equipment Grant for \$25,000.00 by Nov 8th. If awarded, these funds would be used for a new oven for our kitchen that our Kitchen Supervisor has been encouraging us to update for some time.

Facilities/Operations and Maintenance/Environmental Management System

Goals of program: Protect the health and well-being of students, staff, and visitors to the school. Provide a clean and safe environment for learning and working.

Accomplishments:

- Accepted and awarded Midwest Playscapes bid for the OJS Playground Project
- FACE Has new floors in three classrooms, updated outlet boxes in one classroom, new paint in several rooms, and a new outdoor shed for storage. New doors and siding for these buildings are currently in the works with BIE.
- New rate of rise fire detectors was installed in school garage #23 to reduce false alarms.
- FDLOJS is currently working with FDL Natural Resources to update our compost plan and infrastructure, more to come on this.
- We had our annual BIE safety inspection. A copy will be provided as soon as received, however we did very well this year. The biggest item they found was related to a new electrical code requiring us to put in tamper resistant outlets wherever children may be. In the past this was only required for certain age groups like 1st and 2nd grade.

Employee Updates

- Hired Christopher Reynolds as a full-time custodian.

Challenges

- FDL Human Resources.

Goals:

- Continued development and management of school program grants.
- Continued development and management of facility improvement projects.
- Continue improvement with the day-to-day operations, management, and safety of the Ojibwe School.

**Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
School Board
Kitchen Report
November 14, 2024**

The Mission of the Fond du Lac Ojibwe Schools are dedicated to providing a quality education, which focuses on integrating the Ojibwe culture into all students' learning experiences. Every learner will have the opportunity to be challenged, to succeed, and to be prepared for the future. Parents, staff, community, and students will demonstrate the highest level of expectations for themselves and the school.

Department Overview

The Ojibwe Kitchen provides meals to all students enrolled at the Ojibwe School and Face Program. The Ojibwe School currently provides nutritious meals to students. Meals include breakfast and lunch, which are fully reimbursable and comply with the guidelines advised by the MDE. School breakfast and lunch meals are also delivered to OS students who choose to do online learning.

The kitchen is currently staffed by one cook / supervisor, three cook helpers, and one on- call employee.

Accomplishments:

- After a productive meeting with FDL Agriculture Division, and FDL Planning Division it was announced that Blue Cross Blue Shield funding is available for the last year. The funding needs to support cultural and community feasts at school events for the school year 2025 and kitchen equipment needs and upgrades. The FDL Planning Division allocated the Ojibwe School a total of \$55,000. These are the terms.
 - \$25,000 towards kitchen equipment
 - \$15,000 for High Tunnel Improvement at the school garden
 - \$10,000 for OJS Food at events
 - \$5,000 for food for special events outside of OJS activities, community based.
- Met with Eric Torvinen from Natural Resources to discuss opportunities for the school to procure Lake Superior Fish from Natural Resources to utilize on the school menu, free of cost to the school. Eric also discussed the opportunity to introduce students to netting and hunting aspects of the Natural Resources Division.
- Talked with Darren Seppala, FDL Chief Conservation Officer, Darren is making great efforts to harvest deer for the school. Oct. 29th, Darren reported that 5 deer have been taken to the "Bear's Den" for meat processing. 5 deer will be sufficient to satisfy the school menu for the rest of 2024 and 2025.
- With coordination and support from Blake Ludeman, OJS and Jasmine Budreau from FDL Planning Division two Farm to School Grants were completed and submitted. These grants are for the 2024 – 2025 school year. One equipment grant and one food grant.

- Also coordinating with Blake and Jasmine the school plans to pursue the National School Lunch Program Equipment Grant.
- Food Service prepared pizza in the outdoor ovens and served it to students in the school cafeteria. It was a success.
- The Ojibwe School's Pokey Paro Powwow went well. The evening feast was a success. A combined total of 5 local producers and businesses contributed to all the needs of the feast.
- Two students volunteered to help with the powwow feast and did a great job.
- The Ojibwe School Food Service Team prepared and served Braised Bison over Mashed Potatoes, Spring Mix Berry Salad w/ Raspberry Vinaigrette, Manoomin w/ Bacon, Squash Hast w/ Cranberries, Hominy Soup, Blueberry and Apple Crisp.
- For the month of October 16 of the 22 days local food or foods are featured on the school menu.

Challenges:

- To replace broken monitor in cafeteria
- Storage for equipment not utilized daily.
- Hiring on call staff

Goals Within the Department

- To coordinate with partnerships to develop an opportunity for student artists to create a mural for the school cafeteria.
- To continue to maintain a smooth-running and effective School Nutrition Program and Summer Lunch Program
- To continue to provide all meals within the MDE & USDA Guidelines
- Continue to keep the cafeteria safe for students and staff to congregate within the E.O.C. Guidelines
- To resource and incorporate more indigenous and local foods into the OS menu. To include and introduce meats locally raised and indigenous to area like venison, moose, rabbit, fish, bison, and buffalo.
- To continue to network with all staff and available resources within and outside of the community to provide the best meal experience at the Ojibwe School
- To add signage through the use of technology to the cafeteria for students and staff to consistently be informed about, support programs, available resources, kitchen partnerships, menus, etc.
- Obtain more funding for kitchen staff training, equipment, and local foods.

**The Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
Wellness Coordinator School Board Report
November 7, 2024**

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Travel/Trainings:

Accomplishments:

- Almost to unit 2 in our SEL curriculum with grades 1 and 2.
- Working with our School Linked Mental Health therapists regarding our students' needs.
 - Putting together schedules for our Thursday pop in sessions.
- Completed the schedule for our December sessions with First Witness.
- Working on putting together our family spreadsheet so staff in our building know which students live with each other to make communication easier. Work in progress.
- Working on putting together a survey that includes staff pictures for students to fill out which staff they would be comfortable talking to. (Staff Relationship Survey) Work in progress.
 - This helps teachers and other staff know who students have a positive relationship with.

Challenges:

- Trying to fully understand where we are in every aspect of the Wellness Policy.
- No funding available for PD for mental health
 - Staffing shortages – not enough staff to cover duties of support staff.
- Staffing shortages with our therapists.
 - We have 12 students on our waitlist.

Other:

- Helped put together a sweatshirt fundraiser for Prom.
- Possibly going to be the new RP Coordinator.
 - I have not heard what my duties will be for this additional work.

Goals within your departments for 2024-2025:

- Cut down the wording on the Wellness Policy so it is an easier read for others.
- Implement more activities to meet standards in the Wellness Policy.

**Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
School Board Report
Schoolwide Community Activity Supervisor
November 7th, 2024**

The Fond du Lac Ojibwe Schools are dedicated to providing a quality education, which focuses on integrating the Ojibwe culture into all students' learning experiences. Every learner will have the opportunity to be challenged, to succeed, and to be prepared for the future. Parents, staff, community, and students will demonstrate the highest level of expectations for themselves and the school.

Accomplishments:

- Quarter 1 After-school Activities had a total of 50 students have sign up.
- The Gifted and Talented meeting was held with BIE rep was held via Zoom. I was updated with information about students qualifying for ISEP and also how to re-evaluate our students for Gifted and Talented.
- I met with Gifted and Talented teachers to see what they needed and to inform them of what I learned in the meeting with the BIE rep for Gifted and Talented.
- Our third PAG meeting was held October 31st, and we had three parents attend. We call and send out a text reminding them of the meeting.
- Our Pokey Paro Powwow was held on October 4th. There was a great turn-out. We had a few students apply for royalty; no males applied.
- We have begun planning for our Veterans Celebration, which will be held November 13th.
- We have begun planning for our Biboon Celebration, which will be held December 19th.

Challenges:

- When I call parents/guardians to invite them to attend our PAG meetings, some say they will come but they do not show up; sometimes the phone numbers don't work, or I am unable to leave a voicemail.
- Recess with the 4th-6th graders was a challenge. We added another staff person during that time to help with watching the students and making sure they follow the school rules and recess rules. It has been helping with unwanted behaviors.

Employee updates:

- After-school Activities: 12 staff to run activities.
- Gifted and Talented Education: 5 staff to give services to GATE students.

**Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
Athletics Board Report
November 14, 2024**

Travel/Trainings:

Accomplishments:

- Girls' volleyball finished their season putting up a great fight against the number 1 seed in playoffs losing in three close games.
- Girls' basketball coaches have been selected.
- The girls' basketball team has finally been accepted to play in a holiday tournament.

Employee Updates

- Cameron and Jason have accepted the boys' basketball coaching positions for this upcoming season.
- Kayla Jackson has accepted a position as head girls' basketball coach.
- Archie Yellow has accepted the position as assistant girls' basketball coach.

Challenges

- Finding out how to pay game helpers
- Getting home games for all sports

Goals

- Prepare fall/winter coaches for the upcoming seasons.
- Finalize and confirm all current dates on each schedule.
- Get a list of recurring game helpers.

Budget Update

**Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
FACE School Board Report
November 14, 2024**

Objectives of program:

The Fond du Lac FACE program will implement a family literacy program. Program services integrate language and culture in two settings: home and school. In the home based setting the services are provided through the following components: Personal visits, FACE Family Circles, screening and a Resource Network. In the center-based setting services are provided through: Adult Education, Early Childhood Education, Parent Time, Parent and Child Together Time, and screening. All actively participating families receive age-appropriate Imagination Library books for their children each month from birth to five years of age.

Goals of program:

- Support parents/primary caregivers in their role as their child's first and most influential teacher.
- Strengthen family-school-community connections.
- Increase parent participation in their child's learning and expectations for academic achievement.
- Support and celebrate the unique cultural and linguistic diversity of each American Indian Community served by the program.

Happenings for the Month of September in FACE

- The Ojibwe Immersion Preschool now has an enrollment of six children. Adult Ed has an enrollment of thirteen with participation both in classroom instruction and in parent engagement.
- Parent Educators now have eight families each and are continuing recruitment to the program.
- Driver's Ed Training for one student
- TS Gold Check Point is behind, but a zoom meeting was set up with our TA and instructions were given to get back on track.
- Complete Resource Directory
- Mandatory FACE Preschool Training was conducted in Minneapolis Oct 8-10th. Barb, Michelle and Maci attended.
- Mandatory FACE Adult training was conducted in Phoenix Oct 22-24th. Barb attended.
- Pumpkin Patch was well attended with twenty-two families.
- LCO Keller Paap band member came to our FACE building on Oct 8th to conduct a feast with our families and staff. We had a good turnout, and he talked to us about continuing our efforts with teaching Ojibwe language.
- Busing our preschoolers has been a big issue here. We have finally agreed with the bus barn that they will provide pickup, and we will take the children home. Hopefully this will be temporary, and they can assume the routes going both ways.

**Fond du Lac Ojibwe School
Transportation School Board Report
November 14, 2024**

We have completed the necessary paperwork for count week and have sent it to the BIE for certification as of Monday October 28th.

Busing for afterschool ended for the first quarter and will resume on November 12th.

With the cooler conditions come the thoughts of freezing rain and snow, as drivers transition to winter driving, please be aware that bussing may take a little longer time to complete their routes and may be a few minutes later arriving to school until they get times adjusted to new weather conditions. Please help remind students in the upcoming months to dress warmly while riding the bus.

We hired a new employee – Victoria Smith, at the job fair on October 25th. She currently has a class B endorsement and is looking forward to completing her school bus and passenger endorsements.

Blake has worked hard and submitted the RFP to get bids for two 77 passenger buses.

The transportation team has come together to work on a pumpkin for the pumpkin carving contest, make sure to check it out. We will also participate with the RBC for trick or treating.