

Special Meeting of the Sejong Academy School Board – JOURNAL OF MINUTES  
 Thursday, June 22, 2023 @ 5:00 p.m.

<https://meet.google.com/eke-xpiy-adc>

Or dial: 570-718-8361, PIN: 694 443 490#.

Physical meeting location - school address, room 026

Thank you to Mr. Oh for hosting the physical meeting.

Note: all board meeting agenda items will be viewable/projected at the board meeting.

**I. CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE**

**5:00 PM**

A. Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM

B. Board Members Attendance

Thomas Caron Teacher	Erik Funk Community Member	Pawku Hser Teacher	Grace Lee Community Member	Hoonseok Oh Teacher	Donna Phillips Parent	Brad Tipka ex-officio
yes	absent	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Public in Attendance:

EdFinMN:

NEO:

Parents:

Teachers/Staff/Students: Lauren Frommelt

Thank you to all for taking the time to attend today’s meeting.

Meeting protocol/Public Comment and etiquette (also on

<https://www.sejongacademy.org/gov-board-meetings>)

**II. CENTERING & SCHOOL MISSION**

**> 5:03 PM**

A. Sejong Academy is committed to providing an academically rigorous education to Twin Cities students through immersion experience in Korean language and culture by using research-based curricula, high standards for accountability and promoting an appreciation for diversity and international cultures.

School mission read by Hoonseok Oh.

Thank you to everyone in our Sejong community who enables us to achieve our mission!

**III. APPROVALS & DISCLOSURES**

**> 5:07**

A. **06/22/2023 Agenda (01)**

1 minutes

Thank you to Grace Lee for preparing the agenda and to those who contributed agenda items/input.

Motion to approve 06/22/2023 agenda made by Hoonseok Oh, seconded by Donna Phillips. Motion passes unanimously.

Thomas Caron Teacher	Erik Funk Community Member	Pawku Hser Teacher	Grace Lee Community Member	Hoonseok Oh Teacher	Donna Phillips Parent
yes	absent	yes	yes	yes	yes

B. Disclosure of any conflicts of interests

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

2 minutes

D. June Annual meeting minutes 06/08/2023 Minutes (02)

1 minutes

Motion to approve 06/08/2023 Annual meeting minutes made by Pawku Hser, seconded by Thomas Caron. Motion passes unanimously.

Thomas Caron Teacher	Erik Funk Community Member	Pawku Hser Teacher	Grace Lee Community Member	Hoonseok Oh Teacher	Donna Phillips Parent
yes	absent	yes	yes	yes	yes

IV. FINANCE, FACILITY (Erik Funk, Chair)

> 5:22 PM

A. 2024 Korea Field trip (03)

- a. Grades, number of students, number of chaperones
- b. Note: for 2023 Korea trip, 14 students grades 8-11 went with 4 chaperones for 10 days
- c. **Proposal:** Because we are still playing COVID catch-up and making up for students who couldn't apply for I-131's for the 2023 trip, we are proposing the following for the 2024 trip: grades: 10-12, priority given to grades 11 and 12 students who have NOT gone. Open to grade 9 if there is more space. Max number of students = 18 and 5 chaperones. Will revisit eligibility if the above does not reach 18 students (e.g., open to grade 8 and/or students who have already gone)
- d. Prerequisites: have been a Sejong student for at least 1 full school years (2022-2023)
- e. Note: price will increase as \$500 is not fiscally doable. Potentially to \$1200. And will implement a 3 strikes policy (3 strikes, you can't go) and have mandatory fundraising participation
  - i. office referral
  - ii. academics maintain at least a 3 in all classes - at end of Q1, Q2 and Q3 prior to departure
  - iii. Out-of-school suspension is automatic disqualification from Korea trip
- f. We will look at the budget to determine final student cost and if we can afford scholarships for outstanding students

Motion to approve the above proposal (c-f) for the 2024 Korea trip made by Hoonseok Oh, seconded by Pawku Hser. Motion passes unanimously.

Thomas Caron Teacher	Erik Funk Community Member	Pawku Hser Teacher	Grace Lee Community Member	Hoonseok Oh Teacher	Donna Phillips Parent
yes	absent	yes	yes	yes	yes

B. Facilities

- **Parking Lot Fence** : Jacob Chae, Operations Admin:
- We have experienced car and car part theft issues more than three times this year. One incident involved the loss of a catalytic converter, while another staff member had their car stolen and later found it in a severely damaged state. **Additionally, there was**

**a car theft attempt just yesterday.** The estimated cost for repairs on the window and front box is around \$4,000, with a deduction of \$1,000.

- To address and mitigate this issue, **I urgently request the school board and facility management to consider installing a fence around the parking lot**, similar to the one we have in the recess area. Hmong College Prep Academy, a neighboring school, can serve as a good example with their parking lot fence. Having parking lot fences will not only help prevent car theft but also provide secure spaces for our annual events such as Seollal and Chuseok.



Note from Brad Tipka: "I agree with Jacob that we need to increase security in the parking lot. I know the fence was part of the ongoing discussions with the landlord so we need some clarification on that first. We can also add some additional cameras and I heard from Jacob that they may be police cameras that they might install."

The board is in agreement of getting a parking lot fence. We need to keep working with our lawyer and landlord for this. We hope to get a fence as soon as possible.

- A. **23-24 Meeting schedule**: keep 3rd Thursdays at 5 pm? Yes. if 3rd thursday conflicts with a school holiday, Grace will adjust before or after and post 23-24 meeting dates on our website this week.
- B. Board will appoint someone to replace Anna Carpenter - Grace tried calling Daniel Park. No answer. Post opening on social media and Schoology? Grace to post to schoology and social media - preference given to a parent board member.

**VI. PERSONNEL**

- A. **Parent email**: from Brad Tipka: "Mrs. Cho and I will debrief on things mentioned after her vacation and reflect on what we can do better. We can send notes to the board or take other actions as directed by the board." Board will wait until Tipka and Cho have had a chance to discuss. Board will review at July board meeting.

**VII. ADJOURN.** Meeting adjourned at 6:01 pm

**~5:30 pm**