

Birch Grove Community School

Charter School District #4145

Annual and World's Best Workforce Report

2020-2021



"Where Roots Grow Deep and Branches Reach High!"

Charter #4145
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Verification of Statutory Compliance

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I. Introduction

Annual Report Purpose complying with Minnesota State Statutes, section 124E.16 subd. 2:

Annual Public Reports. (a) A charter school must publish an annual report approved by the board of directors. The annual report must at least include information on school enrollment, student attrition, governance and management, staffing, finances, academic performance, innovative practices and implementation, and future plans. A charter school may combine this report with the reporting required under section 120B.11 governing the world's best workforce. A charter school must post the annual report on the school's official Web site. A charter school also must distribute the annual report by publication, mail, or electronic means to its authorizer, school employees, and parents and legal guardians of students enrolled in the charter school. The reports are public data under chapter 13.

Birch Grove Community School Mission Statement:

Birch Grove Community School will promote academic excellence utilizing our unique natural setting allowing students to reach their potential, preparing them to become socially and environmentally responsible, self-directed, life-long learners.

Birch Grove Community School (BGCS) has been a public, charter school since 2005. The school is located in a small, rural community and was created by the local community. BGCS has multi-grade classrooms, with low student to teacher ratios. There is an emphasis on outdoor experiential learning and service learning.

SCHOOL STATUTORY PURPOSES:

- **PRIMARY PURPOSE** (M.S. 124E.01): The primary purpose of the charter school is to improve all pupil learning and all student achievement.
MEASURE: MCA exams
PERFORMANCE STANDARDS / EXPECTATIONS: Academic Performance Standards below.

REPORTING: Progress meeting these expectations is a required element of the Annual Report and “World’s Best Workforce” Plan.

- **STATUTORY PURPOSE II** (MS 124E.01): Increase learning opportunities for all pupils.
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION: The school will integrate outdoor experiential learning and Service Learning into the school program to further enrich classroom instruction.

REPORTING: Progress meeting these expectations is a required element of the Annual Report and “World’s Best Workforce” Plan.

- **ADDITIONAL PURPOSE** (M.S. 120B.11): The school is to meet the outcomes adopted by the Commissioner for all public school students under Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.11 (“World’s Best Workforce”), applicable to

elementary and high schools. Specifically, that 1) all racial and economic achievement gaps between students are closed; 2) all children are ready for school, 3) all third-graders can read at grade level.

GOALS: locally determined, board approved annually for each of the outcomes.

REPORTING: Element of the Annual Report and “World’s Best Workforce” Plan.

After engaging in mandatory statewide distance learning for the last 2.5 months of the 19-20 school year, BGCS implemented a hybrid learning model for the 20-21 year, with Monday-Thursday in person learning, and Fridays, distance learning. Initially, distance learning on Fridays was to prepare students to learn how to use devices and platforms should BGCS have to change the learning model to all distance learning. However, as the year progressed, Fridays were also used to give teachers needed prep time that was lacking during the week due to needed school COVID procedures and general paraprofessional staffing shortage.

The 20-21 school year saw an increase in enrollment of 45.42%. A good portion of this increase was due to students transferring in from the resident district that chose to implement all distance learning. Some of the increase was from families that relocated specifically from other states to ride COVID out on the North Shore, and some were families that did not have a good distance learning experience from their previous school.

The 20-21 year presented many challenges:

Transportation: BGCS needed to purchase a van to support contracted transportation routes.

Distance Learning devices: BGCS purchased iPads, Chromebooks, teacher laptops, teacher microphones (to wear over masks) in the summer prior to the school year. All students that needed a device for home use received one.

Tier 1 Care: BGCS started the year contracting with the Grand Marais YMCA for care until a viable on-site plan was developed. Tier 1 care started on site at BGCS in October. Tier 1 staffing was problematic throughout the year, with the school director working this program periodically.

Programming: Many aspects of our program were canceled: the in-house hot lunch program (2 days a week), swimming lessons, monthly Community Lunch, the annual winter musical (and the service-learning performances to local senior citizens), as well as the annual trip to Wolf Ridge. No volunteers were on site during 20-21.

Finances: All fundraising events for the year were cancelled.

While each classroom sometimes felt like an island during this year, we were grateful (and most families were too) that we were able to be in school at BGCS for the majority of the year, as many schools in the state were unable to have their students on site at all.

Academic achievement, as noted later in this report, shows that we ended the year with all of our students, K-5, with 72% at or above grade level in reading and 74% at or above grade level in math, according to NWEA data (Northwest Evaluation Association). Birch Grove Community School's 3-5th graders scored 57.9% proficient on the Reading MCA test with the state of Minnesota scoring 52.5%. BGCS scored 68.4% in Math with the state of Minnesota scoring 44.2%. There was a notable proficiency difference on the MCAs between the new transfers to BGCS in the 20-21 school year compared to students that were already enrolled at Birch Grove in the 2019-2020 school year. MCA scores increase to 77.7% in Reading and 88.8% in Math when looking at students enrolled the previous year and new transfers removed from the 20-21 MCA data. The school director attributes this difference to the continued delivery of the state standards through the mandated distance learning period at the end of the 19-20 school year, and congratulates the amazing teaching staff for their efforts and hard work!

Parent satisfaction seemed to remain high with BGCS considering that it was another challenging year for all (see page 16-21). Families had to find care for their children on Fridays, as well as an extended period over the holidays, while supporting their children with distance learning. There was some frustration with technology, but most families had become familiar with distance learning and the platforms used. There were also sacrifices made such as sending a cold lunch each day, difficulties with transportation, and special events canceled, like the winter musical and the annual trip to Wolf Ridge. However, when it was all said and done, families were happy that we chose a hybrid model and that our students were on site for the majority of the year, as many school were not.


This school year showed us what we are made of and how, if we work together, we can accomplish much. Thank you so much to the school board, school staff, Sapling staff, and all of the families and students for working together to get through a challenging year and still see good growth. You should all be very proud!

II. Authorizer

School Authorizer Name: Volunteers of America of Minnesota

Authorizer Contact: Stephanie Olsen, Senior Manager of the Charter School Authorizing Program

AUTHORIZER LIAISON: Volunteers of America of Minnesota designates the following employee as the official authorizer liaison to the school:

Main Contact: Stephanie Olsen, Manager
VOA-MN Charter School Authorizing Program
VOA-MN Education Center
924 – 19th Avenue South 
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-270-1998
Email: solsen@voamn.org

Volunteers of America of Minnesota (VOA-MN) was established in 1896, making it one of the oldest non-profits in the state. Throughout its history, the organization has responded to some of the most pressing societal needs. VOA-MN became the first non-profit charter school sponsor in the nation in 2000 because they recognized it as a new and effective way of carrying out their mission. VOA-MN has developed and practices a model of charter school sponsorship based on rigorous continuous improvement processes that add value to the school with which it works, while holding them accountable for their own success or failure. VOA-MN has created selection criteria and a process to ensure it only works with top-quality charter schools whose mission and purpose are in alignment with that of the organization.

VOA will implement a plan to provide ongoing oversight to determine whether Birch Grove Community School (BGCS) is complying with the terms of the charter contract and to meet its responsibilities under the law regarding authorizer oversight. VOA will use the following five criteria in determining Birch Grove Community School's compliance:

1. Mission and Program Model Implementation. VOA will evaluate whether BGCS has been faithful to the terms regarding the implementation of BGCS's design pursuant to the application submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education.
2. Governance. VOA will evaluate whether the school board is performing its governance responsibilities.
3. Student and school performance. VOA will evaluate whether the performance of the students and BGCS meet expectations as provided in the charter contract.
4. Finance. VOA will evaluate whether BGCS is using its resources in compliance with the law and is engaging in adequate fiscal planning for future years.
5. Operation of the school. VOA will evaluate whether BGCS is meeting the administrative requirements of the charter law.
6. Site-Visits. VOA will conduct a minimum of one formal site visit and one informal site visit in the course of an academic year. Formal site visits will be guided by the

Volunteers of America of Minnesota Formal Site Visit Rubric. Volunteers of America of Minnesota may engage in scheduled and unscheduled site-visits at such frequency as determined necessary or prudent by VOA-MN.

We look forward to working with VOA to continually improve student achievement, maintain responsible fiscal management, and continue to comply with all state and federal laws.

Birch Grove Community School’s received a 5 year contract that was executed on July 1, 2021 and expires on June 30, 2026.

III. School Enrollment and Attrition

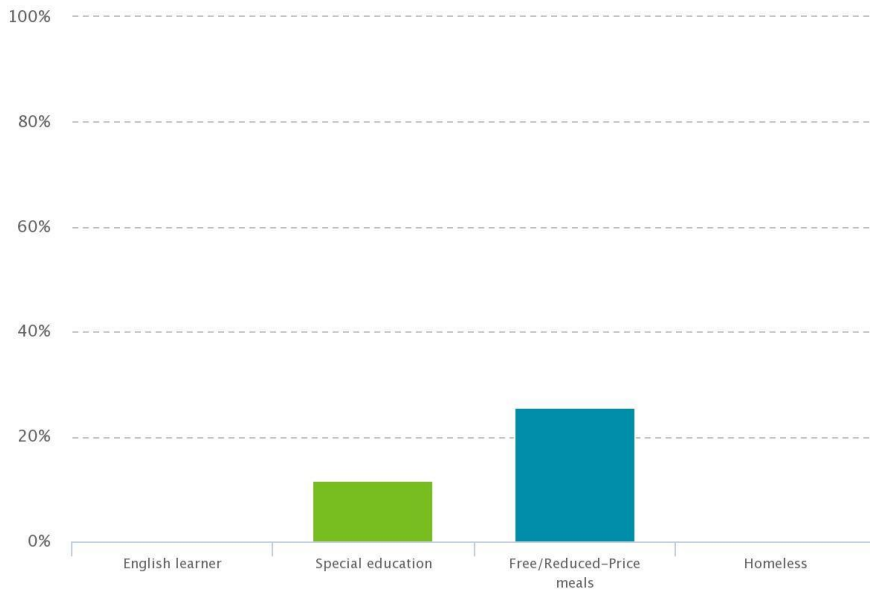
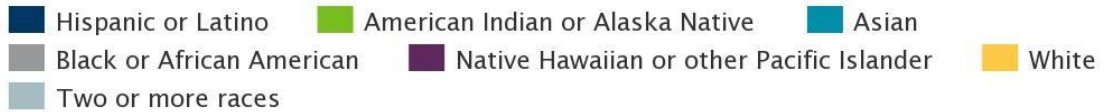
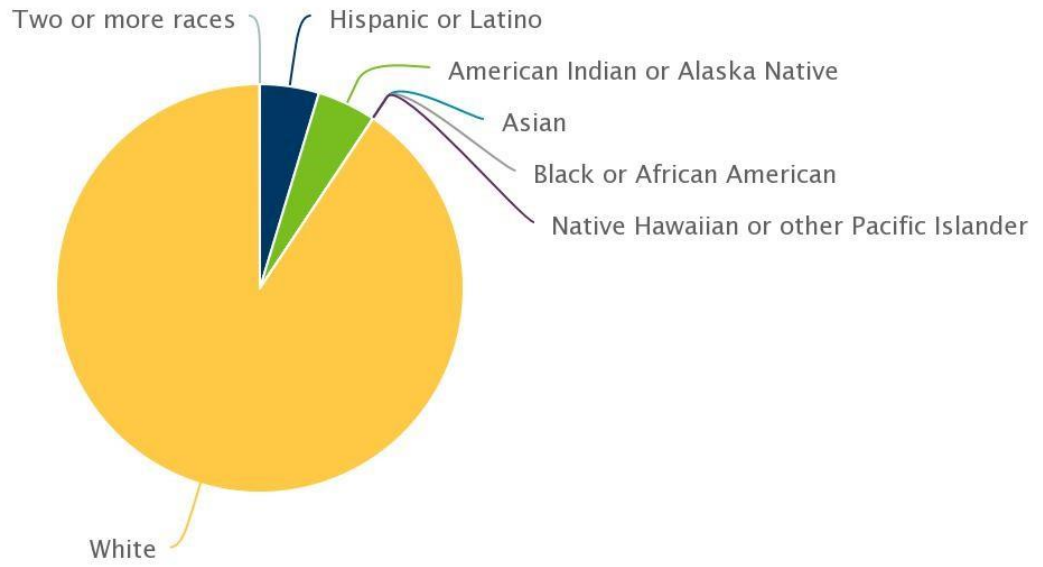
Average Daily Membership (ADM)

School Year	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total #	Enrollment ADM
2017-2018	4.0	4.7	9.0	4.5	4.0	1.0	26.97	-3.82%
2018-2019	4.49	3.87	6.82	6.42	5.17	4.0	30.77	14.09%
2019-2020	5.0	2.73	4.0	4.0	5.08	3.84	24.65	-19.89%
2020-2021	8.93	8.20	7.0	7.80	5.0	5.90	42.83	42.45%
2021-2022 Estimate	12	5	9	3	5	3	37	-13.61%

Student Retention

School Year	
2019-2020	84%
2020-2021	76%
2021-2022	80%

Demographics



2020-2021
 English Learner Population **0.0%**
 Special Education Population **11.6%**
 Free and Reduced Population **25.6%**
 Homeless Population **0.0%**

Admissions Policies and Procedures

Birch Grove Community School welcomes all students. No child will be refused admission to the school on the basis of race, gender, religion, ethnicity, and intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, or athletic ability. All students must make application for admission. Priority for admission will be given to students currently enrolled at Birch Grove Community School and siblings of students currently enrolled at Birch Grove Community School.

Birch Grove Community School board will provide for a lottery when program, class, grade level or building that is compliant with Minnesota Statute 124D.10

*Birch Grove Community School Policy 102/2
Orig. 2011*

102/2 Admissions Policy

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to explain how Birch Grove Community School will decide whom to enroll as students in the school.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

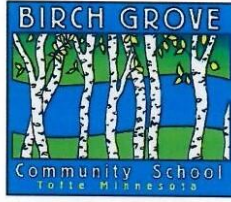
- A. Birch Grove Community School has historically had low student population due to many external factors. In all probability, the lottery process will not be needed due to our typical enrollment numbers and the large size of the facility in which we are housed.
- B. Birch Grove Community School will follow Minnesota Statute 124.D in its enrollment practices. The text of the law is as follows:

A charter school shall enroll an eligible pupil who submits a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or building. In this case, pupils must be accepted by lot. The charter school must develop and publish a lottery policy and process that it must use when accepting pupils by lot. A charter school shall give preference for enrollment to a sibling of an enrolled pupil and to a foster child of that pupil's parents and may give preference for enrolling children of the school's teachers before accepting other pupils by lot. A charter school may not limit admission to pupils on the basis of intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, or athletic ability and may not establish any criteria or requirements for admission that are inconsistent with this subdivision. The charter school shall not distribute any services or goods of value to students, parents, or guardians as an inducement, term, or condition of enrolling a student in a charter school.

III. Procedures

- A. Families interested in attending Birch Grove Community School need only fill out an Application Form to become enrolled. (The Application Form consists of student name, grade entering, and parent/guardian contact information.)
- B. In the unlikely event that Birch Grove Community School will need to hold a lottery, all statutes regarding this procedure will be followed.

*Legal References: Minn. Stat. 124.D Charter Schools
Adopted: 6/28/11*



Birch Grove Community School
Student Application Form

Date: _____

Student Legal Name:

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Grade Entering: _____ Gender: _____

Physical Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Parent/Guardian Name 1: _____

Parent/Guardian Name 2:

I verify that the information contained on this form is correct and my child is eligible for the grade applying for.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

IV. Governance

School Board Composition:

Judy Motschenbacher – Founder, Community Member

Board President

Re-elected: October, 2019

Seat A - Election date: October, 2022

motsch@boreal.org

532 Caribou Trail

Lutsen, MN 55612218-663-0017

Initial Training: Completed school board training in Governance, Financial Management and Employee Matters as required by the Minnesota Department of Education. Renewed: June 18 & 19, 2010, *School Business Solutions, Inc.*

2020-2021 Ongoing Training:

December 21, 2020, School audit presentation by *Miller McDonald, LLC.*

March 15, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development
“Adopt a Budget” www.mncharterboard.com

April 19, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “Adopt and Follow Bylaws” www.mncharterboard.com

May 17, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “Follow Open Meeting Laws” www.mncharterboard.com

June 16, 17, 18, 2021 VOA Annual Charter School Network Conference

Skip Lamb – Community Member

Treasurer Re-elected: October, 2021

Seat B - Election date: October, 2024

lamb@boreal.org

Post Office Box 415

Schroeder, MN 55613

218-663-7922

Initial Training: Completed school board training in Governance, Financial Management and Employee Matters as required by the Minnesota Department of Education. Renewed: June 18 & 19, 2010, *School Business Solutions, Inc.*

2020-2021 Ongoing Training:

December 21, 2020, School audit presentation by *Miller McDonald, LLC*.

March 15, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development
“*Adopt a Budget*” www.mncharterboard.com

April 19, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “*Adopt and Follow Bylaws*” www.mncharterboard.com

May 17, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “*Follow Open Meeting Laws*” www.mncharterboard.com

Sara Knottski – BGCS Teacher File#487820

Vice President

Seated September 29, 2015

Seat C – Teacher Seat – Rotating Term

sara.knottskibgcs@gmail.com

40 Quincy Drive

Silver Bay, 55614

651-214-9762

Initial Training:

Completed school board training in Governance, Financial Management and Employee Matters as required by the Minnesota Department of Education. October 17, 2015 by *Ship’s Wheel Consulting, LLC*.

2020-2021 Ongoing Training:

December 21, 2020, School audit presentation by *Miller McDonald, LLC*.

March 15, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development
“*Adopt a Budget*” www.mncharterboard.com

April 19, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “*Adopt and Follow Bylaws*” www.mncharterboard.com

May 17, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “*Follow Open Meeting Laws*” www.mncharterboard.com

Kathy Lawrence – BGCS Parent

Re-elected: October, 2019
Seat A - Election date: October, 2022
kathy8179@yahoo.com
Post Office Box 44
Schroeder, MN 55613
218-370-9478

Initial Training: Completed school board training in Governance, Financial Management and Employee Matters as required by the Minnesota Department of Education. January 15, 2014, *Minnesota School Boards Association*

2020-2021 Ongoing Training:

March 15, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development
“Adopt a Budget” www.mncharterboard.com

April 19, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “Adopt and Follow Bylaws” www.mncharterboard.com

Sarena Nelson – BGCS Parent

Secretary
Re-elected: October 2021
Seat B - Election Date: October 2024
sarenanelson@yahoo.com
6849 W. Hwy. 61
Tofte, MN 55615
218-370-0726

Initial Training: Completed school board training in Governance, Financial Management and Employee Matters as required by the Minnesota Department of Education. October 17, 2015, *Ship’s Wheel Consulting, LLC*.

2020-2021 Ongoing Training:

December 21, 2020, School audit presentation by *Miller McDonald, LLC*.

March 15, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development
“Adopt a Budget” www.mncharterboard.com

April 19, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “Adopt and Follow Bylaws” www.mncharterboard.com

May 17, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “Follow Open Meeting Laws” www.mncharterboard.com

Krystal Singleton – BGCS Parent

Elected October, 2019

Seat B - Election Date: October, 2022

singletonbk@yahoo.com

Post Office Box 322

Beaver Bay, MN 55601

218-220-9273

Initial Training: Started initial training in December, 2017, with *Ship's Wheel Consulting, LLC*. March 24, 2018 Completed initial training in Governance, Financial Management, Employee Matters, and in other areas of ongoing board concerns and responsibilities. A school board self-review is included in this training. *Ship's Wheel Consulting, LLC*

2020-2021 Ongoing Training:

December 21, 2020, School audit presentation by *Miller McDonald, LLC*.

March 15, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development
“Adopt a Budget” www.mncharterboard.com

April 19, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “Adopt and Follow Bylaws” www.mncharterboard.com

May 17, 2021 Minnesota Charter Board Training & Development “Follow Open Meeting Laws” www.mncharterboard.com

The BGCS board meets the third Monday of the month at 5:30 at Birch Grove Community School. Board meetings switched to a Zoom platform during COVID-19, and have now started meetings back on site.

Meeting dates are subject to change. Rescheduled board meetings are posted at Birch Grove Community School, the school website and in weekly school newsletters (that can also be found on the website).

www.birchgroveschool.com

The board consists of no less than 5 members and no more than 7, with the school Director as an advisory, non-voting position on the board. One licensed teacher serves on the board with an optional rotating term.

The school board calendar and school board meetings can be found on the school website.

New board members start training within 6 months and complete training within a year.

The school board does a self-evaluation annually through a survey and discuss the results at a school board meeting. This 20-21 survey discussion was on June 14, 2021. The board determined that Zoom meetings were not as effective and that more could be accomplished with on-site meetings to start in the near future. A long-term planning meeting was discussed. The board felt that they were doing well in general, despite the challenges of COVID 19. The most immediate goal was to recruit more board members.

There was no school board election in the 20-21 year as no seats were up. The latest school board election was held on October 18, 2022 at the Annual Meeting. All seats were re-elected, and all seats ran unopposed.

Parent surveys are conducted annually.

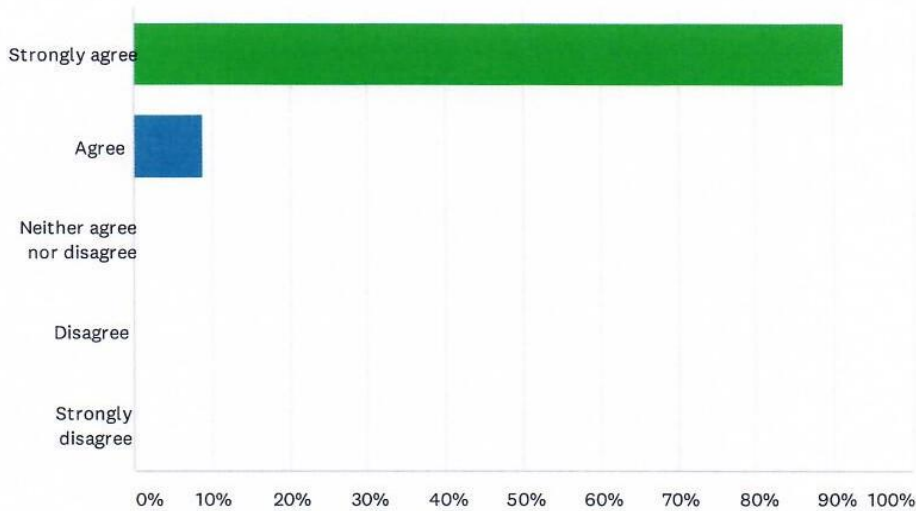
2020-2021 Parent Survey:

23 families, (some with multiple children enrolled) completed the 20-21 online survey. This survey was conducted after a full COVID year with BGCS in person learning M-TH, and distance learning on Fridays. The survey had 37 questions. A selection of survey questions can be viewed below.

2020-2021 BGCS Parent/Family Survey

Q2 Birch Grove Community School's educational program is of high quality

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



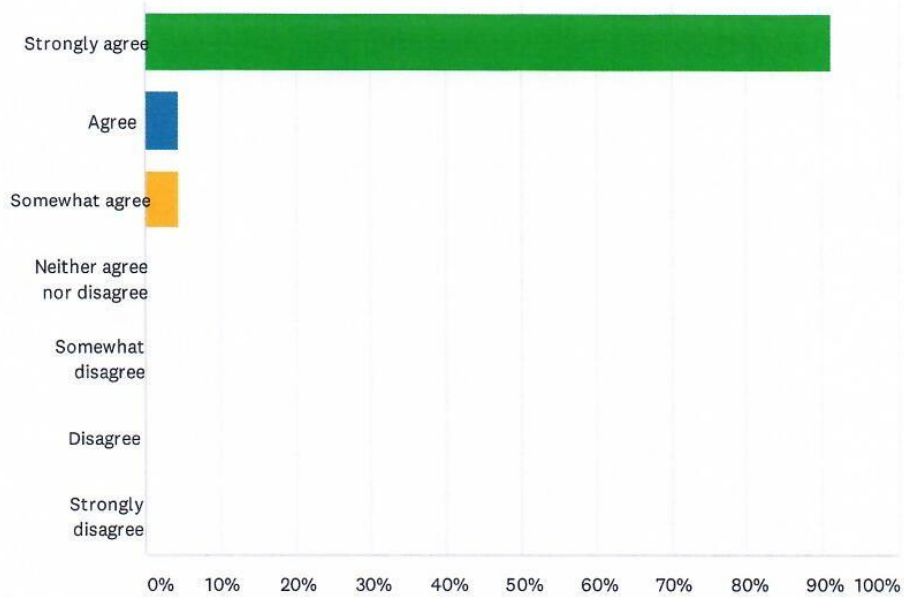
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	91.30%	21
Agree	8.70%	2
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		23

#	COMMENTS?	DATE
	There are no responses.	

2020-2021 BGCS Parent/Family Survey

Q11 I am happy with the multi-grade structure

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



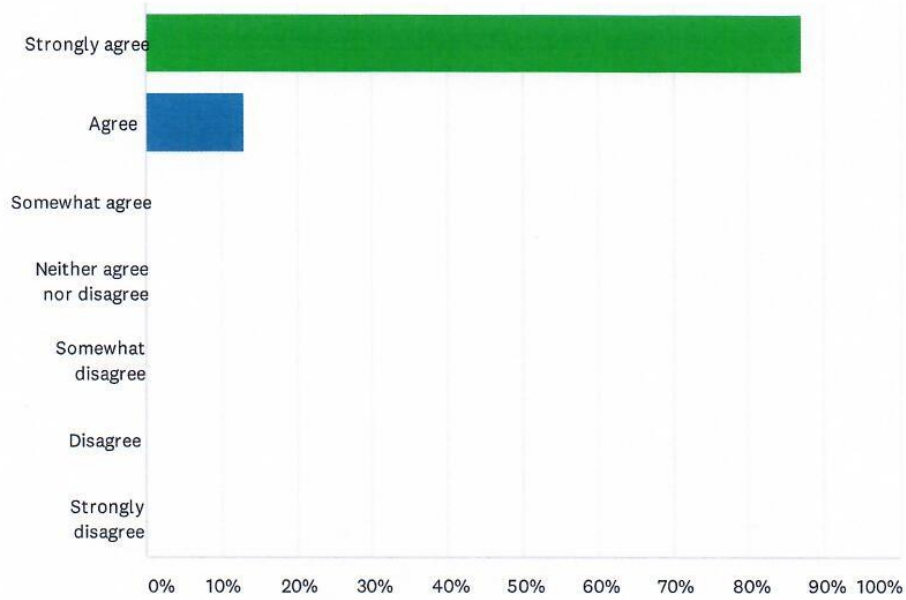
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	91.30%	21
Agree	4.35%	1
Somewhat agree	4.35%	1
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		23

#	COMMENTS?	DATE
	There are no responses.	

2020-2021 BGCS Parent/Family Survey

Q14 My child is progressing academically

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



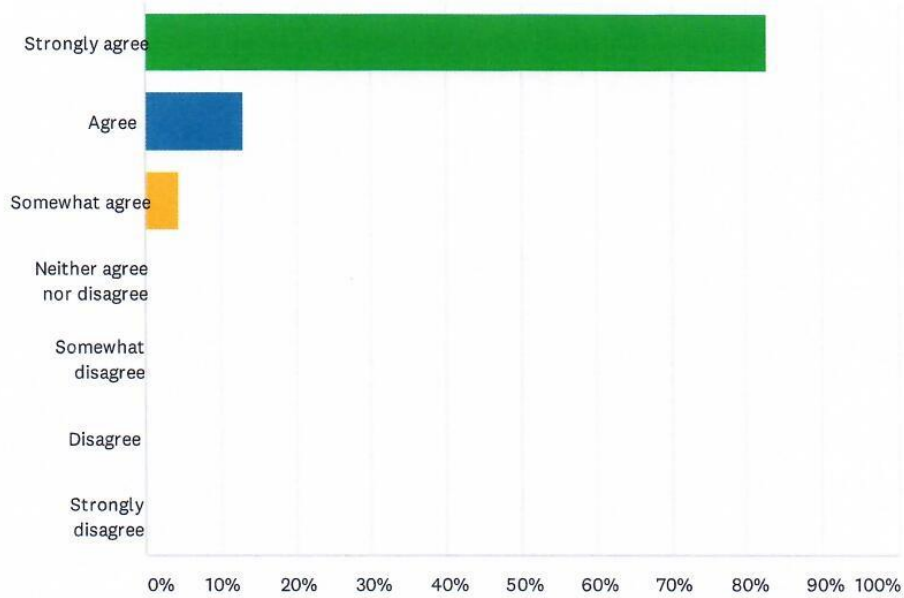
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	86.96%	20
Agree	13.04%	3
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		23

#	COMMENTS?	DATE
1	I've noticed a big difference!	5/20/2021 8:40 AM

2020-2021 BGCS Parent/Family Survey

Q16 My child is happy at BGCS

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



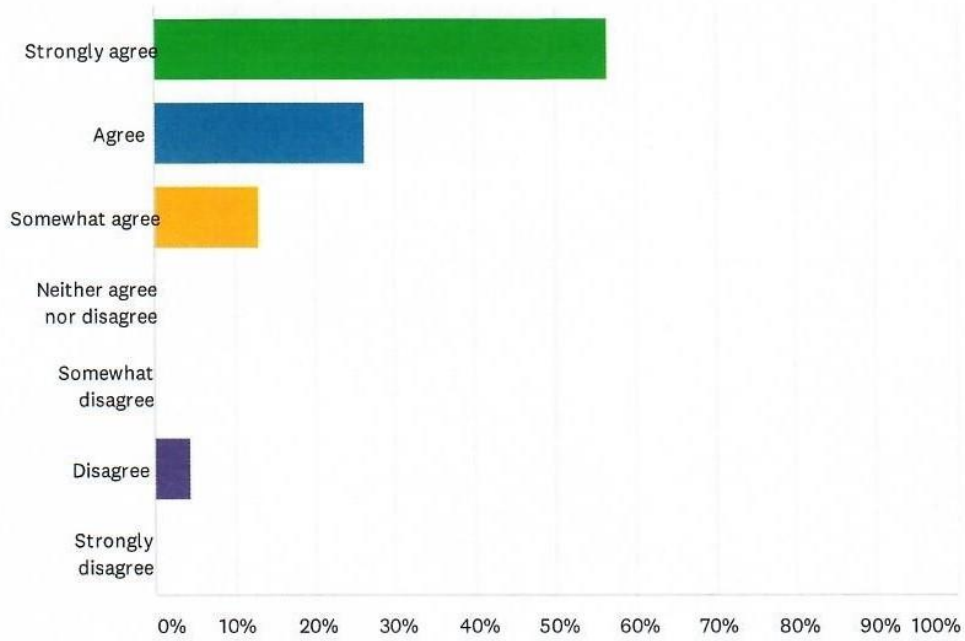
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	82.61%	19
Agree	13.04%	3
Somewhat agree	4.35%	1
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		23

#	COMMENTS?	DATE
1	My child did not like school until she started going to Birch Grove	5/20/2021 8:40 AM
2	[REDACTED] told me today that she wishes school was from 7am to 7pm :)	5/18/2021 1:20 PM

2020-2021 BGCS Parent/Family Survey

Q32 Distance Learning: Overall, my child continued to learn through distance learning

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0

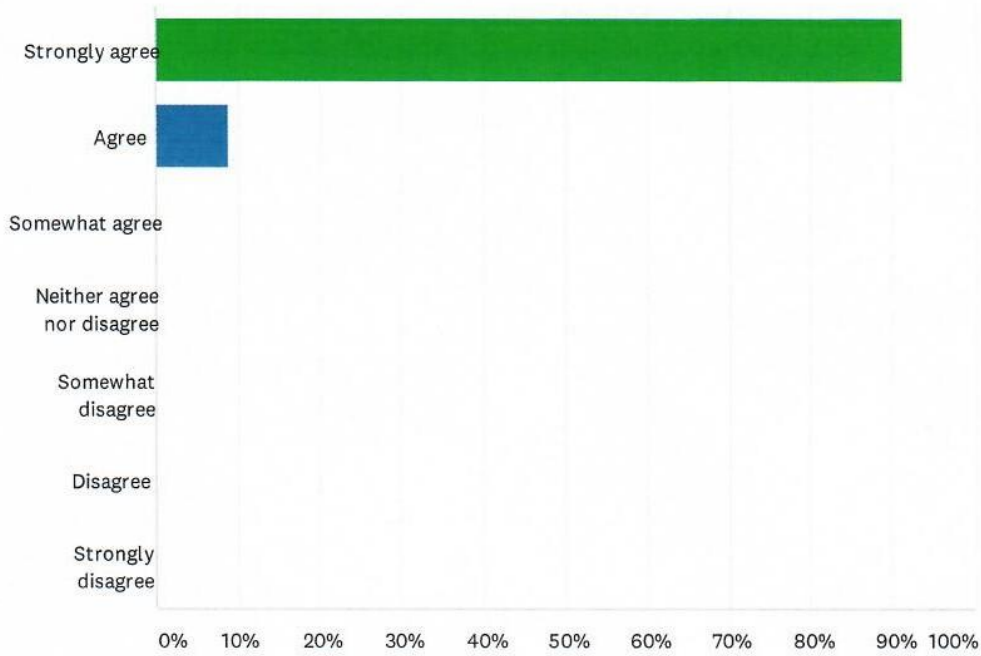


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	56.52%	13
Agree	26.09%	6
Somewhat agree	13.04%	3
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	4.35%	1
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		23

2020-2021 BGCS Parent/Family Survey

Q37 I would recommend Birch Grove Community School to other families

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	91.30%	21
Agree	8.70%	2
Somewhat agree	0.00%	0
Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Somewhat disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		23

#	COMMENTS?	DATE
1	Best school ever!	5/20/2021 8:40 AM
2	WE love it!!!	5/18/2021 1:20 PM

Teacher surveys are conducted annually.

2020-2021 Teacher Survey:

This survey was conducted after a full COVID year with BGCS in person learning M-TH, and distance learning on Fridays.

BGCS Elementary Teacher Survey 2020-2021

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
I understand and support the mission and vision of our school	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
Our mission statement accurately reflects what we are all about	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
The school's program and operations are faithful to the mission	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
The school atmosphere is conducive to learning	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
BGCS is a safe environment	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
The facilities are adequate for the school program	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
Student issues are handled effectively	25.00% 1	75.00% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
Class assignments and homework provide students with activities that match their various learning styles	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
Reading and Math curriculum meets the educational needs of students	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
I have the tools I need to teach	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
BGCS uses quality assessment measures	25.00% 1	75.00% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
Student IEP's are supported	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
I use student assessment measures to improve delivery of educational services	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
Technology adequately supports the educational program	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
I have a clear understanding of my roles and responsibilities	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
Staff is encouraged to participate in professional development	25.00% 1	75.00% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
Staff meetings are effective	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
I am knowledgeable concerning school policy	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
I feel respected at BGCS	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
I feel I am part of a team	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4
BGCS is a fun place to work	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4

BGCS Elementary Teacher Survey 2020-2021

My salary is adequate	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
I communicate effectively with fellow staff members	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
Fellow staff members communicate effectively with me	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
I communicate effectively with the school director	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
The school director communicates effectively with me	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
I have adequate para support in the classroom for enrollment numbers and students' needs	50.00%	25.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	1	1	0	0	
Students receive individual attention at BGCS	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
I am familiar with the Staff Handbook	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
I am familiar with the Student and Family Handbook	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
Community Lunch is a positive addition to the school program	25.00%	50.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	1	2	1	0	0	
The amount of service learning programs is adequate	0.00%	50.00%	25.00%	25.00%	0.00%	4
	0	2	1	1	0	
Weekly newsletters are an effective means of communication	25.00%	75.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	1	3	0	0	0	
I am familiar with the school website	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
I participate in school events held outside the school hours	75.00%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	3	0	1	0	0	
Distance Learning: Overall, distance Learning was effective in my classroom	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
Distance Learning: Overall, my students continued to learn through the DL model	50.00%	50.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	2	2	0	0	0	
Distance Learning: I met (virtually or by phone) with students everyday	66.67%	0.00%	33.33%	0.00%	0.00%	3
	2	0	1	0	0	
Distance Learning: I increased my teaching skills through DL	75.00%	0.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	3	0	1	0	0	
Distance Learning: I am confident in my DL skills should BG implement DL again	75.00%	25.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
	3	1	0	0	0	

V. Management

Name	Admin License Yes/No	File Folder Number	Position	Years Employed	Returned in 2021-2022
Diane Blanchette	No	N/A	School Director/ Business Manager	17	Yes

Diane Blanchette, a founder of the school, has been the school director since the school opened (with the exception of an absence of eight months). Diane worked for the non-profit that created the charter school application, became the school start-up director, and then the school director/business manager.

School Director Review

An administrative review will be conducted by the school board annually.

- A Director evaluation form is sent to each board member via Survey Monkey each summer
- In August/September of each year, the survey results are presented at a regular school board meeting. The year-end progress on professional goals is discussed and reviewed at this time.
- In October of each year, the administration presents a professional development plan for the current year to the board. The plan is to be goal oriented, citing the action and the measurement for success. The plan will be approved by the school board prior to implementation

Birch Grove Community School
Professional Development Plan 2020-2021
School Director, Diane Blanchette

Goal 1: To increase knowledge and skills to better contribute to the success and well-being of Birch Grove Community School.

Action: Attend and pursue professional development opportunities, activities, and interactions that will increase knowledge and skills in various areas of school administration.

Measurement: Documentation of professional development opportunities, activities and interactions that increase knowledge, skills and experience will be compiled and presented for school board review.

August 13 & 14, 2020 on-site annual school financial audit with *Miller McDonald, LLC*.

September 2, 2020: Bloodborne Pathogens video

September 2, 2020: Mandatory Reporter Training by *Indigo Education*

September 2, 2020 Child Find Training by *Indigo Education*

September 2, 2020: Special Education Paraprofessional Training by *Indigo Education*

November 6, 2020 *Early Brain Development and Mental Health* by Abby Refsland, MSW, LICSW 2CEU

December 21, 2020: School financial audit presentation by *Miller McDonald, LLC*.

January 21, 2021: Ed-Fi Training, MDE

March 25, 2021: Ed-Fi Training, MDE

On-line training to administer staff saliva tests

www.mncharterboard.com: March 15, 2021 "Adopt a Budget", April 19, 2021 "Adopt and Follow Bylaws", and May 17, 2021 "Follow Open Meeting Laws" with school board members

June 16, 2021 VOA-MN Annual Network Conference

June 17, 2021 VOA-MN Annual Network Conference

June 18, 2021 VOA-MN Annual Network Conference

All IEP Meetings for 2020-2021

Weekly Cook County Public Health (made only 5 or so meetings)

Weekly VOA Charter School Directors meetings

Navigating through the school year during a pandemic

Result: Knowledge and skills were increased due to professional development opportunities, activities, and interactions as documented.

Goal 2: To increase student academic achievement: The percentage of all students enrolled October 1 in grades K-5 at Birch Grove Community School who meet or exceed their fall to spring RIT Growth Projection on the NWEA MAPS in Reading will increase 5% higher than the previous year's percentage.

Actions: Attend and pursue professional development opportunities, activities, and interactions that will increase knowledge, skills and experience that relate to academic achievement. Activities will be documented.

Measurement: Documentation of professional development opportunities, activities and interactions that increase knowledge, skills and experience will be compiled and presented for school board review.

August 13 & 14, 2020 on-site annual school financial audit with *Miller McDonald, LLC*.

September 2, 2020: Bloodborne Pathogens video

September 2, 2020: Mandatory Reporter Training by *Indigo Education*

September 2, 2020 Child Find Training by *Indigo Education*

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June 16, 2021 VOA-MN Annual Network Conference

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June 18, 2021 VOA-MN Annual Network Conference

All IEP Meetings for 2020-2021

Weekly Cook County Public Health (made only 5 or so meetings)

Weekly VOA Charter School Directors meetings

Navigating through the school year during a pandemic

Result: Knowledge and skills were increased due to professional development opportunities, activities, and interactions as documented.

NWMAPS results: *The percentage of all students enrolled October 1 in grades K-5 at Birch Grove Community School who meet or exceed their fall to spring RIT Growth Projection on the NWEA MAPS in Reading increased 5% higher than the previous year's percentage. ~ GOAL MET.*

2018-2019: 55% of K-5 met or exceeded their fall to spring RIT Growth Projection on the NWEA MAPS in Reading

2019-2020: No results due to no testing-COVID

2020-2021: 60% of K-5 met or exceeded their fall to spring RIT Growth Projection on the NWEA MAPS in Reading

VI. Staffing

Licensed Staff Information

Name	Position	File Folder #	Returned Or not Returned In 21/22
Sara Knottski	FT - K/1 Teacher	487820	Returned
Sara Silence	FT - 2/3 Teacher	492349	Returned
Heidi (Milner) Helgesen	FT - 4/5 Teacher	1002178	Returned
Michelle Blanck	PT - Special Education	364355	Returned

In 2008, Birch Grove Community School was the 21st charter school to enter into the Quality Compensation Program (Q Comp). Q- Comp is designed to advance the teaching profession by providing structural professional development and evaluation, as well as an alternative pay schedule that compensates teachers based on performance. The program brings together career advancement, professional development and compensation linked to academic achievement. It includes a locally agreed-upon peer evaluation process for every teacher that is based on skills, responsibilities and student academic growth.

There are three components to the Q-Comp program:

- School-wide academic goal: set in reading or math
- Classroom goals for each teacher: Goals can vary from reading to math and the measurement is different for each. Goals, approved by school administration, must be challenging, specific and measurable
- Teacher observation/evaluation: Teachers are observed in the classroom and evaluated by each other, and a teacher liaison, three times per school year. Observation/evaluations are reviewed with this team along with the school director. A written self-reflection accompanies each observation upon completion. Teachers must receive a score of proficient or higher on all three observations to consider the goal achieved

Teachers also formally evaluated annually by the school director. This evaluation includes a teacher self-review document that is reviewed with the school director.

Teacher Professional Development 2020-2021

Staff	Date	Training
Knottski, Sara K/1	06/17/20	Ages and Stages – An overview of early childhood development-Child Care Aware of MN: ETL District 3 Hours
	06/16/20	Sudden Unexpected Infant Death – An overview of early childhood development – Achieve-Child Care Aware of MN: ETL District 1 Hour
	06/16/21	Abusive Head Trauma - An overview of early childhood development – Achieve-Child Care Aware of MN: ETL District 1 Hour
	9/2/2020	Mandatory Reporter and Child Find – Indigo Education, Noreen Foster – 2 Hours
	9/27/20	Spotlight on Dyslexia – Edweb.net – Lisa Schmucki 16 Hours
	11/06/20	Early Brain Development and Mental Health – MSW. LICSW. Abby Refsland – 2 Hours
	01/06/21	English Language Learners – EQ Learn – Charlene Myklebust – 3 Hours
	01/08/21	Suicide Prevention – EQ Learn – Charlene Mylebust – 3 Hours
	01/08/21	Accommodations and Modifications – EQ Learn – Charlene Myklebust – 3 Hours
Silence, Sara 2/3	9/02/20	Mandatory Reporter and Child Find – Indigo Education, Noreen Foster – 2 Hours
	9/27/20	Spotlight on Dyslexia – Edweb.net – Lisa Schmucki 14 Hours

	11/06/20	Early Brain Development and Mental Health – MSW. LICSW. Abby Refsland – 2 Hours
Helgesen (Milner), Heidi 4/5	8/25/20	The Case for Practice by Leta Palmiter from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	8/25/20	Dyslexia Deciphered: An Update on What We Know by Richard Wagner from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	8/25/20	Discovering the Reading Science by Emily Hanford from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	8/28/20	Fish Don't Climb Trees--A Whole New Approach to Learning Challenges by Sue Hall from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	8/28/20	The Memory Connection: Multisensory Strategies for Boosting Students Working Memory Throughout Phonics Instruction by Jennifer Hasser from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/03/20	The Role of Cognition in Reading and Literacy Skills and the Impact on Students with Dyslexia by Bridget Hughes from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/03/20	There is NO Correlation Between Ease of Learning to Read and IQ by Lois Letchford from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/03/20	How to Screen for Dyslexia by Barbara Steinberg from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/03/20	What does the Research Say About Which Technologies Support the Learner with Dyslexia by Nanci King Shepardson from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/03/20	How an Entire State is Equipping Educators with Knowledge and Skills to Implement Effective Literacy Instruction by Cherry Lee from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/02/20	Mandatory Reporter and Child Find – Indigo Education, Noreen Foster – 2 Hours
9/27/20	Making Sense of Words for Our Youngest Readers and Writers by Kelli Sandman-Hurley from edWeb.net 1 Hour	

	9/27/20	Contrasting Approaches to Dyslexia Instruction: What are the Active Ingredients by Colby Hall from edWeb.net. 1 Hour
	9/26/20	Orthography: Why Should I Care About Spelling by Alicia Roberts Frank from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/11/20	The Science of Reading Meets the Science of Learning by Dr. Anita Archer from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/03/20	The Intersection of Dyslexia, Reading Disorders, and Language Disorders by Maggie Kjer from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	9/03/20	A Solid Literacy Foundation: The Critical Importance of the Early Childhood Years by Kai-le Berke from edWeb.net 1 Hour
	11/06/20	Early Brain Development and Mental Health – MSW. LICSW. Abby Refsland – 2 Hours
	6/5/20-9/30/20	Spotlight on Dyslexia – Edweb.net – Lisa Schmucki 16 Hours
Blanck, Michelle	6/5/20-9/30/20	Spotlight on Dyslexia – Edweb.net – Lisa Schmucki 12 Hours
	8/10/20-8/11/20	Indigo Education Back to School Conference, 11 Hours
	9/02/20	Mandatory Reporter and Child Find – Indigo Education, Noreen Foster – 2 Hours
	9/04/20	Virtual Learning Top 10 Tips for Teaching Math Online – 1 Hour
	10/08/20	How To Integrate SEL (Social Emotional Learning) into Learning – Distance or Otherwise ASCD-Douglas Fisher & Nancy Frey 1 Hour
	11/06/20	Early Brain Development and Mental Health – MSW. LICSW. Abby Refsland – 2 Hours
	11/09/20	Compassion Fatigue – Lori Rothstein Cook County Higher Education 45 minutes

11/23/20	Boosting Engagement Rigor & Connection Online Part 1: Doug Lemov, Hilary Lewis, & Wendy Amato discuss strategies to increase engagement and participation while teaching in an online classroom. 45 minutes.
11/24/20	From Behaving to Belonging: The Inclusive Art of Supporting Students Who Challenge Us - Julie Causton and Kate MacLeod. 45 Minutes.
12/10/20	Solving Academic and Behavior Problems in a Remote Environment (ASCD) with Margaret Searle and Marilyn Swartz – 1 Hour
1/12/21	Free Zones of Regulation: New Year, New Ideas Seminar Online via Zoom and Facebook Live (Creator Leah Kuypers & Implementation specialist Emily Walz) 1 Hour
2/08/21	The Brain and Reading: Why Learning to Read Is Hard and What to Do About It - Online edweb.net. (Presenters: Tammy Miller and Becky Mungle) 1 Hour
5/18/21	Understanding Anxiety Part 1: Licensed school social worker Jaime McNatt 1 Hour
5/20/21	Understanding Anxiety Part 2: Licensed school social worker Jaime McNatt 1 Hour
5/21/21	Understanding Anxiety Part 3: Licensed school social worker Jaime McNatt 1 Hour

Non-Licensed Staff Information

Staff	Position	Returned or Not Returned in 21-22
Jessica Klemmer	PT Paraprofessional, PT Technology Para, PT Office Assistant	Returned
Lucianna Ranneli	FT Paraprofessional 1:1	Did Not Return
Rista Sharma-Connor	PT Paraprofessional	Returned
Deb Allen	PT Paraprofessional	Did Not Return

Birch Grove Community School contracts with Indigo Education for a Special Education Director and special education support services.

Birch Grove Community School also contracts with A Chance To Grow for speech therapy.

VII. Academic Performance

BGCS utilizes Northwest Evaluation Association's (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress System (MAPS) as the schools standardized assessment tool, and has since opening in 2005.

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) is the creator of Measures of Academic Progress System (MAPS), our chosen method to test our students. This computer-based testing system is built on decades of research and refinement and adapts to the child in real-time as the test progresses for a pinpoint picture of learning achievement and readiness.

Testing is conducted three times yearly, in the fall, mid-year, and in the spring, for all students in Kindergarten through fifth grade. MAPS testing supplies us with instant and complete data on student growth. This data is used to guide instruction, helps to determine appropriate action for the academic growth of each student, and is the basis for our Academic Goal Setting Contracts.

School Academic Goals:

It is important to note that setting academic goals for BGCS is incredibly challenging. There has been much dialog between the Minnesota Department of Education, our school authorizer VOA, and BGCS. Goals that work for other schools (typically using MCA scores) do not always work for a school of Birch Grove's size. Due to data privacy, MCA scores cannot be made public if the cell size is too small. Because of the likelihood of having an annual MCA cell size too small to report, the school academic goals are sometimes based on NWEA scores. Goals include the entire school, K-5, where most elementary school goals only use data from 3rd – 5th grade (those grades that take the annual MCA's).

It is also important to note that low numbers of students tested can greatly vary scores from year to year (MCA's or NWEA). We are probably one of the few schools in Minnesota that could potentially score a 0% or 100% due to our low student numbers.

VOA-MN, our school authorizer, determines our school's academic performance standards. The following is taken from the current charter contract:

“The VOA-MN determined academic performance standards contained below are uniform for all VOA-MN charter schools. The standards serve as the basis for both annual authorizer monitoring of school academic performance and contract renewal determinations. All

standards within an area are considered equal. *The authorizer reserves the right to have flexibility to reasonably amend these standards / expectations as needed (example: based on cell size being too small). One sample rating scale is imbedded below to provide the reader with context.*

VOA-MN's academic performance standards/expectations include the following:

1. Students are performing well on state examinations or other agreed upon exam (i.e. NWEA) in comparison to students at schools they might otherwise attend (with similar demographics) as evidence of meeting their primary statutory purpose of improving all pupil learning and all student achievement.

SAMPLE 0-2 RATING SCALE ON STANDARDS - NEGOTIABLE

0 = School's average proficiency rate is less than the average performance of students in schools they might otherwise attend.

1 = School's average proficiency rate meets or exceeds the average performance of students in schools they might otherwise attend in one or two subjects (math, reading and science) but not all three.

2 = School's average proficiency rate exceeds the average performance of students in schools they might otherwise attend.

2. Over the term of the contract, the school will maintain an average state-determined minimum growth score of -0.5 as evidence of meeting their primary statutory purpose of improving all pupil learning and all student achievement. (an alternative measure will be used when cell size is too small or in the case of stand-alone high school)

3. The difference between the "all-students" proficiency rate in the school and any reportable subgroup proficiency rate will be reduced over the term of the contract in both reading and math using state examination or other agreed upon exam (i.e. NWEA) data as evidence of the school meeting their primary statutory

purpose of improving all pupil learning and all student achievement.

4. The school has adopted a formal teacher evaluation process and adheres to the requirements set forth in Minnesota Statute 122A.40.

5. All teachers are supported through a school-wide professional development plan that is based on analysis of assessment data and directly linked to improving all pupil learning and all student achievement.

6. The school is meeting their additional statutory purposes (MS 124E.01, Subd.1; Charter Contract Addendum B).

7. The school is meeting the World's Best Workforce goals (MS 120B.11; Charter Contract Addendum B).”

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA)
Measures of Academic Progress System (MAPS)
Reading - 2020-2021

**% Of Whole School, K-5th Grade, Meeting or Exceeding
their RIT Growth (Goal) in
READING**

NWEA Scores	Reading
Birch Grove Community School	60%

**% Of Whole School, K-5th Grade, Meeting or Exceeding the
National Achievement Norm (Grade Level) in
READING**

NWEA Scores	Reading
Birch Grove Community School	72%

Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA)
Measures of Academic Progress System (MAPS)
Math -2020-2021

**% Of Whole School, K-5th Grade, Meeting Or Exceeding
Their RIT Growth (Goal) In
MATH**

NWEA Scores 20-21	Math
Birch Grove Community School	65%

**% Of Whole School, K-5th Grade, Meeting Or Exceeding The
National Achievement Norm (Grade Level) In
MATH**

NWEA Scores 20-21	Math
Birch Grove Community School	74%

MCA Results 2020-2021

3rd-5th Grade

READING

MCA Reading 20-21	% Proficient
Birch Grove Community School	57.9%
State of Minnesota	52.5%
Sawtooth Mountain Elementary, Grand Marais, Resident District #166	57.4%
William Kelly Elementary, Silver Bay #381	62.4%

MATH

MCA Math 20-21	% Proficient
Birch Grove Community School	68.4%
State of Minnesota	44.2%
Sawtooth Mountain Elementary, Grand Marais, Resident District #166	45.5%
William Kelly Elementary, Silver Bay #381	42.4%

To better determine how well BGCS taught (and students learned!) through the statewide mandate of distance learning for 2.5 months in 19-20, and throughout the 20-21 hybrid learning model year, BGCS felt it was important to show MCA performance for students that had been enrolled at BGCS for at least two years. The MCA scores below do not include students that transferred in for the 2020-2021 year.

% Of Students Proficient On The MCA READING Test That Were Enrolled At BGCS For A Minimum Of 2 Years:

MCA Reading 20-21	% Proficient
Birch Grove Community School	77.7%

% Of Students Proficient On The MCA MATH Test That Were Enrolled at BGCS For A Minimum of 2 Years:

MCA Math 20-21	% Proficient
Birch Grove Community School	88.8%

VIII. School Annual Plan for Assessments

School/Local Assessments 2020-2021

Assessment	Grades	Testing Window
Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) MAPS (Measures of Academic Progress System) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Math 	Kindergarten- 5 th Grade	<u>2019-2020 School Year</u> Fall: September 2019 Winter: January 2020 Spring: April 2020

State Assessments 2020-2021

Assessment	Grades	Testing Window
Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading 	3-5 th Grade	<u>2020-2021 School Year</u> April, 2021
Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math 	3-5 th Grade	<u>2020-2021 School Year</u> April, 2021
Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science 	5 th Grade	<u>2020-2021 School Year</u> April, 2021

IX. Finances

School Auditors: Miller McDonald, Inc.
 513 Beltrami Avenue NW ~Post Office Box 486 Bemidji, MN 56619
 (218) 751-6300 ~ Fax (218) 751-0782

BIRCH GROVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
MINNESOTA CHARTER SCHOOL NO. 4145
TOFTE, MINNESOTA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	General Fund	Community Service Fund	Other Governmental Fund	Totals
<u>Revenues</u>				
Revenues from Local Sources	\$ 38,331	\$ 78,514	\$ 2,450	\$ 119,295
Revenues from State Sources	414,848	-	-	414,848
Revenues from Federal Sources	41,054	-	-	41,054
Sales and Other Conversions of Assets	12,455	476	4,539	17,470
Investment Earnings	431	-	-	431
Total Revenues	<u>507,119</u>	<u>78,990</u>	<u>6,989</u>	<u>593,098</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Current:				
Administration	54,736	-	-	54,736
District Support Services	41,839	-	-	41,839
Regular Instruction	191,967	-	-	191,967
Special Education Instruction	143,908	-	-	143,908
Community Education and Services	-	77,329	-	77,329
Instructional Support Services	5,419	-	-	5,419
Pupil Support Services	20,376	-	10,760	31,136
Sites and Buildings	43,677	-	-	43,677
Fiscal and Other Fixed Costs	7,678	-	-	7,678
Capital Outlay	108	-	-	108
Total Expenditures	<u>509,708</u>	<u>77,329</u>	<u>10,760</u>	<u>597,797</u>
<u>Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</u>	<u>(2,589)</u>	<u>1,661</u>	<u>(3,771)</u>	<u>(4,699)</u>
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</u>				
Proceeds from the Sale of Assets	2,500	-	-	2,500
Operating Transfers In	-	-	3,500	3,500
Operating Transfers Out	(3,500)	-	-	(3,500)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>
<u>Net Change in Fund Balances</u>	<u>(3,589)</u>	<u>1,661</u>	<u>(271)</u>	<u>(2,199)</u>
<u>Fund Balances, Beginning of Year</u>	<u>54,617</u>	<u>1,015</u>	<u>533</u>	<u>56,165</u>
<u>Fund Balances, End of Year</u>	<u>\$ 51,028</u>	<u>\$ 2,676</u>	<u>\$ 262</u>	<u>\$ 53,966</u>

BIRCH GROVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
MINNESOTA CHARTER SCHOOL NO. 4145
TOFTE, MINNESOTA
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
JUNE 30, 2020

	<u>General</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Community</u> <u>Service</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Other</u> <u>Governmental</u> <u>Fund</u>	<u>Totals</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Cash and Investments	\$ 33,577	\$ 2,936	\$ 262	\$ 36,775
Due from Other Governmental Units	60,618	-	-	60,618
Other Accounts Receivable	710	1,998	-	2,708
Prepaid Expenditures	4,888	1,024	-	5,912
<u>Total Assets</u>	<u>\$ 99,793</u>	<u>\$ 5,958</u>	<u>\$ 262</u>	<u>\$ 106,013</u>
 <u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</u>				
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Salaries Payable	\$ 28,354	\$ 170	\$ -	\$ 28,524
Accounts Payable	2,211	2,217	-	4,428
Payroll Deductions and Employer Contributions	18,200	95	-	18,295
Deferred Revenue	-	800	-	800
<u>Total Liabilities</u>	<u>48,765</u>	<u>3,282</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,047</u>
 <u>Fund Balance</u>				
Nonspendable for:				
Prepaid Items	4,888	1,024	-	5,912
Restricted for:				
Food Service	-	-	262	262
Community Education	-	1,652	-	1,652
Unassigned	45,203	-	-	45,203
<u>Total Fund Balance</u>	<u>51,028</u>	<u>2,676</u>	<u>262</u>	<u>53,966</u>
<u>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</u>	<u>\$ 99,793</u>	<u>\$ 5,958</u>	<u>\$ 262</u>	<u>\$ 106,013</u>

Expenses for all 20-21 funds totaled \$686,145, a 14.78% increase from the previous year.

Revenues for all 20-21 funds totaled \$754,641, a 31.10% increase from the previous year.

With an increase in enrollment of 45%, the expenditures and revenues make sense for the year. BGCS rented an additional room for the 20-21 year, purchased a van that added a third transportation route, and purchased a significant amount of technology with COVID relief funds. The increase in enrollment brought an additional \$117,913 in the 20-21 year, and while we were not able to have any of the school fundraising events, BGCS still managed to bring in \$45,325 in donations. Overall, it was a successful financial year for Birch Grove Community School.

2020-2021 Budget: Revenue

	L	Fd	Org	Pro	Fin	O/S	Crs	Desc	20-21
	R	01	005	000	000	092	000	Interest from Earnings	350.00
	R	01	005	000	000	096	709	Round Up Grant - Arrowhead	0.00
	R	01	005	000	000	096	777	General Donations	36,000.00
	R	01	005	000	000	097	000	Erate Reimbursement	1,272.00
	R	01	005	000	000	099	000	Misc. Local Revenue	3,500.00
	R	01	005	000	000	201	000	Endow Fund Apportion	1,447.00
	R	01	005	000	000	211	000	General Education Aid-Entitlements	323,155.00
	R	01	005	000	000	212	000	Literacy Incentive Aid	3,000.00
	R	01	005	000	000	317	000	LTFM State Aid	5,280.00
	R	01	005	000	000	619	000	Fundraising Expense	1,000.00
	R	01	005	000	000	619	100	Wolf Ridge Fundraising Exp	0.00
	R	01	005	000	000	619	200	Gala Fundraising Expense	500.00
	R	01	005	000	000	619	250	Bobcat Bash Expense	0.00
	R	01	005	000	000	620	000	Fundraising Rev	0.00
	R	01	005	000	000	620	100	Wolf Ridge Fundraising Rev	0.00
	R	01	005	000	000	620	200	Gala Fundraising Revenue	10,000.00
	R	01	005	000	000	620	250	Bobcat Bash Revenue	0.00
	R	01	005	000	335	211	000	Q Comp	6,449.00
	R	01	005	000	342	300	000	Safe Schools	937.00
	R	01	005	000	348	300	000	Lease Aid	44,804.00
	R	01	005	000	414	400	000	Title II	2,000.00
	R	01	005	000	433	400	000	Title IV	0.00
	R	01	005	000	419	400	000	Federal Spec Ed	14,700.00
	R	01	005	000	514	500	000	REAP Grant	9,519.00
	R	01	005	000	740	360	000	State Special Education	114,024.00
								Total General Fund Revenue	574,937.00
	R	02	005	770	707	096	000	Gifts And Bequests	1,000.00
	R	02	005	770	707	601	000	Food Sales To Pupils	0.00
	R	02	005	770	707	606	000	Food Sales To Adults	0.00
	R	02	005	950	707	649	000	Perm Interfd Transf	1,200.00
								Total Food Service	2,200.00
	R	04	005	590	000	050	301	Saplings Fees	28,500.00
	R	04	005	590	000	050	305	Summer Saplings fees	13,000.00
	R	04	005	590	000	050	302	Campsite Kids Fees	15,000.00
	R	04	005	590	000	050	304	Birch Buddies Fees	0.00
	R	04	005	590	000	050	310	Sweatshirt Sales	0.00
	R	04	005	590	338	040	000	Saplings Pathway I	16,000.00

2019-2020 Budget: Revenue Continued

R	04	005	590	338	040	305	Summer Saplings Pathway I	3,000.00
R	04	005	590	000	093	000	Sub Lease Revenue	0.00
R	04	005	590	000	094	000	County Support	25,000.00
R	04	005	590	000	096	000	Donations	3,000.00
R	04	005	590	000	619	210	Halloween Carnival Exp	500.00
R	04	005	590	000	620	210	Halloween Carnival Rev	0.00
							Total Community Service	103,000.00
R	14	005	506	000	093	000	Bookings	0.00
R	14	005	506	000	093	000	LK Johnson Grant	0.00
							Total Fund 14	0.00
							Total Revenue Budget	680,137.00

2019-2020 Budget: Expenditures

L	Fd	Org	Pro	Fin	O/S	Crs	Desc	20-21
E	01	005	010	000	185	000	Board Salary -Other	1,000.00
E	01	005	010	000	305	000	Legal & Other Consultants	100.00
E	01	005	010	000	310	000	Auditor	7,500.00
E	01	005	010	000	366	000	Board Travel	300.00
E	01	005	010	000	820	000	Dues & Membership	0.00
E	01	005	010	000	821	000	Sponsor Assessment	6,000.00
E	01	005	020	000	110	000	Salary	35,500.00
E	01	005	020	000	210	000	FICA	2,715.00
E	01	005	020	000	218	000	Tra	2,811.00
E	01	005	020	000	305	000	Contracted Services & PR	2,750.00
E	01	005	108	000	305	000	Computer Tech	750.00
E	01	005	110	000	170	000	Acct/Bookkeeper Salary	17,000.00
E	01	005	110	000	171	000	Office Assistant	2,000.00
E	01	005	110	000	210	000	FICA	1,453.00
E	01	005	110	000	214	000	PERA	150.00
E	01	005	110	000	218	000	Tra	1,310.00
E	01	005	110	000	270	000	Worker's Comp	0.00
E	01	005	110	000	280	000	Reemployment Compensation	1,000.00
E	01	005	110	000	305	000	Business Management Contract/Fees	13,500.00
E	01	005	110	000	320	000	Communications Svcs	5,137.00
E	01	005	110	000	329	000	Postage/Printing	100.00
E	01	005	110	000	370	000	Copier Lease	1,500.00
E	01	005	110	000	401	000	General Supplies	1,500.00
E	01	005	110	000	740	000	Line of Credit Interest	0.00
E	01	005	760	720	170	000	Transportation Driver	1,800.00
E	01	005	760	720	210	000	Transportation FICA	137.00
E	01	005	760	720	214	000	Transportation PERA	0.00
E	01	005	760	720	218	000	TRA	142.00
E	01	005	760	720	360	000	Contracted Services & PR	19,205.00
E	01	005	760	720	365	000	Transportation Chargeback	0.00
E	01	005	760	720	440	000	Transportation Fuel	500.00
E	01	005	760	733	548	000	VAN Purchase	5,186.80
E	01	005	810	000	330	000	Utility Services	3,000.00
E	01	005	810	000	350	000	Repairs & Maintenance	300.00
E	01	005	810	000	401	000	Supplies	150.00
E	01	005	850	348	370	000	Building Lease	49,782.00
E	01	005	920	000	740	000	VAN Interest	0.00
E	01	005	940	000	340	000	Insurance	8,774.00
E	01	005	950	000	910	000	Perm Interfd Transf	1,200.00

2020-2021 Budget: Expenditures Continued

E	01	010	203	000	140	000	Teacher Salary	139,481.00
E	01	010	203	000	141	000	Teacher Assistant Salary	13,000.00
E	01	010	203	000	145	000	Substitute Teachers	1,875.00
E	01	010	203	000	185	000	Sal-Other	1,000.00
E	01	010	203	000	210	000	FICA	11,120.00
E	01	010	203	000	214	000	PERA	600.00
E	01	010	203	000	218	000	TRA	11,513.00
E	01	010	203	000	305	000	Contracted Services	0.00
E	01	010	203	000	394	000	Field Trips-Admissions	0.00
E	01	010	203	000	401	000	Non-Instructional Supplies	2,000.00
E	01	010	203	000	430	000	Instructional Supplies	2,000.00
E	01	010	203	000	460	000	Instruct Software & textbooks	300.00
E	01	010	203	000	461	000	Standardized Tests	1,500.00
E	01	010	203	000	556	709	Chrome Books	0.00
E	01	010	204	414	366	000	Trav/Conv/Conference	2,000.00
E	01	010	204	514	140	000	Lic Classroom Tchr	9,519.00
E	01	010	204	514	141	000	N-Lic Classroom Pers	0.00
E	01	010	204	514	210	000	Fica/Medicare	728.00
E	01	010	204	514	214	000	Pera	0.00
E	01	010	204	514	218	000	Tra	753.00
E	01	010	206	433	185	000	Title IV Student Support & Academic Wages	
E	01	010	206	433	210	000	FICA	
E	01	010	206	433	218	000	Tra/PERA/FICA	
E	01	010	206	433	364	000	Transportation Contracts	
E	01	010	206	433	369	000	Entry Fees	
E	01	010	290	000	360	000	Tran-Contract/Pub	0.00
E	01	010	290	000	401	000	Service Learning Supplies	0.00
E	01	010	291	000	401	000	Music supplies	0.00
E	01	010	401	740	394	000	To Non-Ed Agency	5,000.00
E	01	010	407	740	140	000	Lic Classroom Tchr	53,500.00
E	01	010	407	740	161	000	ParaProf/Personal Care Assist	44,000.00
E	01	010	407	740	210	000	Fica/Medicare	7,458.00
E	01	010	407	740	214	000	Pera	3,300.00
E	01	010	407	740	218	000	Tra	4,237.00
E	01	010	407	740	394	000	To Non-Ed Agency	8,000.00
E	01	010	407	740	433	000	Sup/Mat Indiv Instr	600.00
E	01	010	420	419	303	000	Special Ed Director Contract	18,000.00
E	01	010	420	419	366	000	Trav/Conv/Conference	600.00
E	01	010	620	000	70	000	Library	0.00
E	01	010	630	000	141	000	Technology Para	2,000.00

2020-2021 Budget: Expenditures Continued

E	01	010	630	000	210	000	Fica/Medicare	153.00
E	01	010	630	000	214	000	Pera	150.00
E	01	010	630	000	305	000	Instructional Related/Tech Svc	150.00
E	01	010	630	000	401	000	Sup/Mat Non-Instr.	150.00
E	01	010	630	000	405	000	Non-Instr Cmptr Sftwr/Lic	500.00
E	01	010	630	000	460	000	Instruct Software	200.00
E	01	010	630	000	555	000	Technology Equipment	250.00
E	01	010	640	335	140	000	Lic Classroom Tchr	7,900.00
E	01	010	640	335	305	000	Consult/Fees For Svc	1,000.00
E	01	010	640	335	366	000	Trav/Conv/Conference	2,250.00
E	01	010	640	335	490	000	Food	250.00
E	01	010	720	000	305	000	Consult/Fees For Svc	100.00
E	01	010	720	000	401	000	Sup/Mat Non-Instr.	100.00
							Total	551,489.80
E	02	005	770	707	170	000	N-Instr Support	0.00
E	02	005	770	707	210	000	Fica/Medicare	0.00
E	02	005	770	707	214	000	Pera	0.00
E	02	005	770	707	490	000	Food	2,000.00
E	02	005	770	707	495	000	Milk	0.00
E	02	005	770	707	820	000	Dues & Memberships	35.00
							Total	2,035.00
E	04	005	505	000	110	000	Lead Community Service Coordinator	5,500.00
E	04	005	505	000	210	000	Fica/Medicare	420.00
E	04	005	505	000	218	000	TRA	424.00
E	04	005	505	000	305	000	Business Management Fees	4,500.00
E	04	005	505	000	310	000	Auditors	2,500.00
E	04	005	505	000	320	000	Communications Svcs-internet, phone, website	1,713.00
E	04	005	505	000	329	000	Postage/Printing	50.00
E	04	005	505	000	340	000	Insurance	2,924.00
E	04	005	505	000	350	000	Repairs & Maintenance	150.00
E	04	005	505	000	360	000	Preschool Transportation	6,402.00
E	04	005	505	000	503	000	Equipment	0.00
E	04	005	505	000	370	000	Copier Lease	400.00
E	04	005	505	000	398	000	Hot Lunch Services	0.00
E	04	005	505	000	401	000	Supplies	250.00
E	04	005	505	000	555	000	Computers	2,000.00
E	04	005	590	000	170	000	Community Service Coordinator(s)	3,000.00
E	04	005	590	000	210	000	Fica/Medicare	229.00
E	04	005	590	000	214	000	Pera	225.00

2020-2021 Budget: Expenditures Continued

E	04	005	590	000	218	000	TRA	0.00
E	04	005	590	000	370	000	Preschool Lease	1,024.00
E	04	005	590	000	144	301	School year Saplings Non-Licensed	33,000.00
E	04	005	590	000	210	301	Fica/Medicare	2,524.00
E	04	005	590	000	214	301	Pera	2,475.00
E	04	005	590	000	305	301	School Year Saplings Advertising	1,000.00
E	04	005	590	000	366	301	Saplings Training	400.00
E	04	005	590	000	401	301	School Year Saplings supplies	700.00
E	04	005	590	000	144	302	Campsite Kids Non-licensed	7,680.00
E	04	005	590	000	210	302	Fica/Medicare	587.00
E	04	005	590	000	214	302	Pera	608.00
E	04	005	590	000	305	302	Campsite Kids Advertising	300.00
E	04	005	590	000	401	302	Campsite Kids supplies	400.00
E	04	005	590	000	144	304	Birch Buddies N-Lic Instr Sup Pers	0.00
E	04	005	590	000	210	304	Birch Buddies Fica/Medicare	0.00
E	04	005	590	000	214	304	Birch Buddies Pera	0.00
E	04	005	590	000	401	304	Birch Buddies Supplies	0.00
E	04	005	590	000	144	305	Summer Saplings Non-Lic	7,680.00
E	04	005	590	000	210	305	Fica/Medicare	587.00
E	04	005	590	000	214	305	Pera	608.00
E	04	005	590	000	305	305	Summer Saplings Advertising	300.00
E	04	005	590	000	401	305	Summer Saplings Supplies	400.00
E	04	005	590	000	401	309	Bright Wheel deposit/processing fee	1,300.00
E	04	005	590	000	401	310	Sweatshirts	0.00
Total								92,260.00
E	14	005	506	000	307	000	Op Rentals & Leases	0.00
E	14	005	506	000	401	000	Cots- Other supplies	0.00
E	14	005	506	000	490	000	Food	0.00
Total								0.00
Total Budget								645,784.80

X. Service Learning Plan and Outcomes

BIRCH GROVE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

SERVICE LEARNING PLAN

I. PURPOSE: The purpose of this Plan is to provide organizational guidance and articulate expectations for service learning.

II. DEFINITION: Service learning is a method of teaching and learning that combines classroom instruction with meaningful community service. This form of learning emphasizes critical thinking and personal reflection while encouraging a heightened sense of community, civic engagement, and personal responsibility.

III. STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS:

- A. Birch Grove Community School will engage in service projects throughout each school year
- B. Each classroom will engage in a minimum of one service-learning project annually.
- C. Each faculty member and student will engage in and promote the value of ongoing service to others; within the school, the family, to friends and community.
- D. The school will designate a bulletin board to exhibit examples of service to others.

IV. Guiding Principles in Service Learning

A. Mission: Birch Grove Community School will promote academic excellence utilizing our unique natural setting allowing students to reach their potential, preparing them to become socially and environmentally responsible, self-directed, life-long learners.

B. Vision: Birch Grove Community School envisions quality curriculum, excellent staff, and committed families and community members.

Our vision also includes:

- A K-5 educational program in multi-grade classrooms.
- Low student/teacher ratios.
- A focus on: reading, writing, and mathematics.
- Preparing students to be active and responsible citizens in their community.
- Encouraging student/parent/community ownership in their community school.

Birch Grove Community School will provide a nurturing and safe environment where:

- Parents and community members are actively engaged in student learning.
- High expectations for students and staff are modeled and clearly defined.
- Quality programs are developed, evaluated, and continuously improved.
- All students' needs are met.
- Student-teacher ratios in the classroom are low.
- Students' lives are further enriched through active partnership with local citizens.

All Service Learning happened on site in 20-21 due to COVID.

Grades Participating	Service-Learning Projects 20-21
K-1 Grade	Earth Day Clean Up at BG Community Center
2-3 rd Grade	Maintaining a Food Shelf at BG Center
2-3 rd Grade	Sent Letters to Seniors at the Care Center
4-5 th Grade	Campsite Clean Up – 3 Hours
4-5 th Grade	Set Up for Saplings Graduation - .5 Hours

XI. Innovative Practices and Implementation

School Culture

Birch Grove Community School works hard to ensure a productive academic environment where students feel safe, comfortable, respected, and challenged. The start of each year requires much attention directed to new students who aren't accustomed to Birch Grove. Birch Grove integrates respect and responsibility into everyday life of the school, and we start every morning the same – all staff and students gather at Morning Meeting listen to daily announcements, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and set a positive, “let's get to learning” tone. *Morning Meeting was suspended in the 20-21 year due to COVID.*

Multi-Grade Classrooms

Benefits of multi-grade classes are:

- A. Instructional Flexibility – In a multi-grade classroom the teacher has the possibility of allowing a child to read with students in higher grades while, for example, the same child does math with the lower grades. One can more easily gear the work to individual needs.
- B. Social Skills – A classroom with children of several ages enables students to gain a perspective on what is happening in the lives and education of children both younger and older. It helps them gain a more accurate sense of the past and future in terms of experiences and interest and stimulates the entire learning environment.
- C. Peer Tutoring – In multi-age classrooms, the children generally have more opportunity to help one another than in a single grade classroom. Such peer teaching aids the slower and younger

children in ways often beyond the communicative ability of adults, since adults have generally forgotten the problems they had in learning a particular concept or skills in the remote past.

At Birch Grove, we come to know our students very well. Our low student to teacher ratio, multi-grade classrooms (students have the same teacher for at least two consecutive years) and the staff concern and care for our students contributes to a family atmosphere that we are proud of. Because we know our students well, we are better able to gauge what their specific abilities and needs are, allowing us to serve our students better.

Goal Setting Contracts

Every student at Birch Grove has an Academic Goal Contract. At the beginning of each school year, students partake in the NWEA Measurement of Academic Progress System (MAPS) testing for both math and reading and receive an initial RIT score. Utilizing data provided from NWEA, a year end RIT score (the goal) is determined based on the students beginning RIT. The initial RIT score and the year-end RIT goal are recorded in a contract for each student. Contracts are presented at the first conference of the year. The classroom teacher discusses the contract with both the student and the parents, discusses the initial score, and what the end goal is. Contracts are signed by all three parties. The overall goal is student academic growth.

Community Lunch

Community Lunch is a program that was included in the school's original charter application and has been a part of the school from the start. Community Lunch is held monthly and it is a chance for parents, grandparents and community members to interact with our students and staff and to enjoy a great meal and conversation! Often student work is displayed for guests to see. The 4/5 students set up and tear down for this event as a part of our Learning Service programming. *This program was suspended in 20-21 due to COVID.*

The Great Outdoors

Our school is located in one of the most beautiful natural environments in the state, and we are taking advantage of it! Included in our program is the opportunity to go cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, and ice skating. Not only do these activities promote physical activity, but it creates bonds between student, staff and volunteers.

The nature trail, completed in September 2009, runs throughout the land behind the building. The trail has 10 interpretive signs focusing on: owls, wetlands, deer rubs, tree identification, fungus, tree rings, ants and

anthills, woodpeckers, a deer enclosure, and one sign that introduce the trail system. All of the signs can be changed and moved to create different focal points from year to year, or season to season.

The students in 2nd-5th grade visit Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center each year for a 3 day/2-night stay. Students engage in a variety of activities and learning experiences that cover Minnesota state standards with the guidance of the Wolf Ridge staff. *This program was suspended in 20-21 due to COVID.*

Responsive Classroom

Responsive Classroom helps to build and reinforce a positive approach in managing student behavior.

ALIGNMENT TO VOAMN AUTHORIZING PROGRAM HALLMARKS

Providing high quality educational opportunities: BGCS works hard to improve student learning by encouraging the use of different and innovative teaching methods, requiring measurements of learning outcomes via goal setting contracts, establishing new forms of accountability and creating new professional opportunities for teachers.

Our Focus on underserved communities, as measured by continued enrollment: BGCS has an open enrollment policy, and we have had the opportunity to work with families of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds in the past. We will continue to work hard at providing a high-quality education, strengthening perseverance, facilitating cross-cultural understanding, and doing our part to help close the achievement gap for all students who attend BGCS.

Socio-economic Diversity: BGCS is a tuition free, open enrollment charter school which does not discriminate regardless of economic status. BGCS participates in a free and reduced lunch program, and works hard at making sure all students are treated equally.

Encouraging Small School Environments: BGCS promotes multi grade classrooms which enhances peer mentoring, small group instruction, and the use of paraprofessionals in classrooms to allow for more one on one time between the teacher and students. Our small school environment allows flexibility to meet the unique needs of all students and encourages parental involvement in making decisions based on

those unique needs.

Service Learning:

BGCS will promote service learning by coordinating a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection with the purpose of enriching the students learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. BGCS will involve students in community service activities combined with facilitated means for applying the experience to their academic and personal development.

Outdoor Experiential Learning:

Our school is located in one of the most beautiful natural environments in the state, and we are taking advantage of it! Included in our program is the opportunity to go cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, and ice skating. Not only do these activities promote physical activity, but it creates bonds between student, staff and volunteers.

BGCS has a campsite in the woods behind the building. The site includes a large storage shed that contains 15 camp chairs to surround the paved bonfire area, and supplies for the Campsite Kids summer program. The campsite also contains picnic tables and hammocks that are great for independent reading.

The nature trail, completed in September 2009, runs throughout the land behind the building. The trail has 10 interpretive signs focusing on: owls, wetlands, deer rubs, tree identification, fungus, tree rings, ants and anthills, woodpeckers, a deer enclosure, and one sign that introduce the trail system. All of the signs can be changed and moved to create different focal points from year to year, or season to season.

The students in second through fifth grade visit Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center each year for a 3 day/2 night stay. Students engage in a variety of activities and learning experiences with the guidance of the Wolf Ridge staff.

Birch Grove Community School has enjoyed much success throughout the years:

MDE "Finance Award" ~ 13 Times
From the Minnesota Department of Education

"Excellence in Finance Management and Oversight"
From VOA of Minnesota

“Student Growth and Achievement Award”
From Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA)

“Award of Excellence in School Board Governance”
From VOA of Minnesota

“High Quality Charter School” ~ 2 Times
From the Minnesota Department of Education

XII. Future Plans

As always, Birch Grove Community School will continue to monitor the fund balance carefully, with the intention of increasing it whenever possible. A healthy fund balance is necessary for the school’s future.

BGCS would like to see additional formal space at the campsite so that K-5 will be able to better utilize this outdoor space for learning during the school year.

BGCS would like to find additional school board members – 1 to take a member’s place (that would like to retire from the board) and 1 to take the seat that has been empty for some time.

BGCS looks forward to adding back programs that have been suspended due to COVID.

- Community Lunch
- Swimming Lessons
- Annual trip to Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center
- Winter Musical Performances to the public
- Field Trips

XIII. World's Best Workforce

World's Best Workforce Goals (Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.11)

1. All racial and economic achievement gaps between students is closed

BGCS will increase the percent of all students who “meet standard” on the MCA exams and NWEA exams each year as evidence of closing the racial and economic achievement gap. (Note: BGCS does not have a very diverse population and small has cell size too small to report)

Measure: MCA exams (internal use) and NWEA assessments (public reporting limited to small sample size).

Reporting: School Annual Report (MS. 124d.10)

MCA Scores 2020-2021

MCA Reading 20-21	% Proficient
Birch Grove Community School	57.9%
State of Minnesota	52.5%
Sawtooth Mountain Elementary, Grand Marais, Resident District #166	57.4%
William Kelly Elementary, Silver Bay #381	62.4%

MCA Math 20-21	% Proficient
Birch Grove Community School	68.4%
State of Minnesota	44.2%
Sawtooth Mountain Elementary, Grand Marais, Resident District #166	45.5%
William Kelly Elementary, Silver Bay #381	42.4%

2. All children are ready for school

BGCS will increase the percent of children who are ready for school each year.

Measure: Birch Grove Community School will continue to offer the Saplings Program (licensed daycare run as a pre-school) for children ages 3-5.

Reporting: School Annual Report (MS. 124d.10)

The Saplings Program was operational in 2020-2021.

3. All third-graders can read at grade level

School will increase the percent of all third graders that can read at grade level each year based on state standards and NWEA assessments.

Measure: MCA exams (internal use) and NWEA assessments (public reporting limited due to low sample size).

Reporting: School Annual Report (MS. 124d.10)

7 third graders took the MCA reading test.
Cell size too small to report.

4. All students are ready for career and college

Not applicable to an elementary school

5. All students graduate from high school

Not applicable to an elementary school