



**Discovery Community School**

**<http://dcs.ourschoolpages.com/Home>**

**DCS Community Meeting Minutes**

**April 15, 2021**

**Location: Zoom**

Presiding: Jose Ruiz and Chris Barrows

Minutes: Barb Boyd

Opening 6:33

**Welcome: Jose Ruiz**

This meeting we will discuss the budget for the 2021-2022 school year and also elect new board members for 2021-2022.

**Principal's Reports: Erin Bowser**

A few quick updates, our teachers are thinking about ways to do in person actives on Wednesdays this spring. We will send a survey to gather interest, indoor vs outdoor actives and develop a plan to see if this can work. The CDC and governor allow for students to be 3 feet apart. LWSD has adopted these guidelines for the classrooms. Mrs. Bowser shows diagram of desks in a classroom and gives an example of students that would need to quarantine if a student near them were diagnosed with COVID. She plans to survey families about their comfort level and if there is a preference for indoor vs outdoor.

**Teacher's Report: Diane Jewell**

Small groups are for interested students and are optional. Wednesday the building is open and more flexible. The teachers are impressed that Friday Specials are still continuing during this remote year and love the energy and creativity.

Mary Oemig: Our first survey sent to the community showed a big interest in in-person Friday Specials. I will be sending another survey to families to help guide which track they should select considering if they want to be in person or remote.

Michelle Villasenor: Thank you for all your support! Especially, Dyana Stevens for organizing the virtual outdoors sweatshirts for Olders.

### **Treasurer Report: Vikram Kundur and Jason Ahlf**

Checking \$14,26.78

Saving \$14,968.44

Projecting about \$4000 more to come in as membership dues.

For the proposed budget for 2021-2022, we based our spending and activities on a normal year. We have about \$20,000 in surplus going into the coming school year.

Vikram reviewed the proposed budget for 2021–2022-year, line by line.

Chris Barrows: In September we will have a better idea of what the year may be like. We may need to adjust dues and revise this budget. Right now, we will plan for a normal year.

Discussion about how to spend down surplus fund: spring camp, possible invite alumni and reserve the full day on Sunday for them.

Lacey Ahlf: We should use surplus money for events here in the Kirkland to be inclusive of families with weekend actives who can't go to spring camp.

There will be a future discussion how to use the surplus money, so think of ideas.

Discussion about budget for hardship. Is \$900 the right amount of money or should it be increased?

Vikram: We normally know at the end of the year how much is used. Last year we had \$1800 in hardship. There are still 18 outstanding donations right now. 75% of donations have been collected.

Jose recommends increasing the hardship fund in the budget to match what was used last year, \$1800.

Voice vote on zoom: modify hardship fund to \$1800. This is approved unanimously by the community.

Danya: Is this normal to have a budget deficit?

Discussion amongst members how historically we have never spent all the money we have budgeted for and also have surplus. In past year we have been trying to spend down the surplus to be used while families who are paying dues are getting enrichment activities/events while their children are at DCS.

Motion to approve the proposed budget for the 2021-2022 school year, voice vote on zoom-motion passes and the budget is approved unanimously.

**Sweatshirt surplus funds request:**

Dyana Stevens bought camp sweatshirts for the Olders class for the virtual outdoor education.

\$1081.75

Dyana apologizes, normally we would vote on this first but this year she saw Sandburg kids wearing sweatshirts the week before and went ahead and bought the sweatshirts so the kids would have them the following week.

Many parents comment how their kids love the sweatshirt, thank you!

Steering endorses that these surplus funds should be approved.

Voice vote on zoom: All in favor of using surplus funds to reimburse Dyana the money she spent on the sweatshirts: this passes unanimously by the community.

**Update on Spring Camp: Chris Barrows**

Next May 2022 is booked at Camp Indianola for our Spring Camp.

We had talked earlier about moving Spring Camp May 2021 to August 2021. Doubtful that we will be able to share cabins in August 2021 due to COVID. Chris proposes to cancel the reservation for August 2021 so Camp Indianola can rent out their cabins to other people and then move the deposit for the May 2022 date.

Vote verbal on zoom: Postpone Spring Camp August 2021 until May 2022. This passes unanimously by the community.

**Friday Specials: Mary Oemig**

Discussion to move Friday Special from Friday to Wednesday because of school campus availability. Right now, the Fridays has volunteers available, are volunteers available for Wednesday?

Friday Specials dates are the weeks of May 12, 19, 26 June 2 (but Wednesdays).

There are more tracks available to make smaller groups, targeting groups of 10-15 kids.

This is Adrienne's last year at DCS. Mary's last year is next year. Jessica's last year is also this year. We really need a few more parents who can partner with Mary next school year to learn how Friday Specials works so this program can sustain into the future at DCS.

People who are good with logistics or creative, working as a team. We need someone who can be at school for logistics on the Friday at the end of the day.

Past Friday Special tracks were cultures, food, art, food tour from 3 different cultures, how to make salads, snacks from your cupboard, read food labels, make healthy snacks, running club, flag football, Spies like Us, Harry Potter track, photography.

### **Volunteer Roles: Susan Grimm**

Susan sent out an email to the community listing the available volunteer positions.

### **Elections:**

Treasure: Danya Kelberg

Dyana Stevens: secretary (for 1 year term)

No volunteers for co-chair

Election voice vote on zoom: Danya Kelberg to be treasurer- unanimously voted Treasurer by the community.

Election: vote Dyana Stevens to serve 1 year term as secretary- unanimously voted to be secretary by the community.

Mary nominates Barb Boyd for Co-chair. Barb will consider this.

### **Walk on Topics**

Sophie Truman: Weeding party at the school this weekend, April 16<sup>th</sup> 10:00.

Adjourn: 8:02