



Discovery Community School
<http://dcs.ourschoolpages.com/Home>

DCS Community Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2021
Location: Zoom

Presiding: Chris Barrows

Minutes: Erin Moreland

Opening – 6:35pm

Welcome - Chris Barrows

Last standard community meeting of the year. We will have a speaker for the January meeting (01/20/2021) - Christy Keating. She's a former prosecutor for King county who will talk about online safety for kids.

Principal & Teacher's report - Diane Jewell & Nami Kusunose

Erin Bowser not available tonight. Diane reports that everything is going well at school. The students are excited about the Learning Celebration next Wednesday and looking forward to sharing their research with each other. This is typically a family event but this year, due to Covid, the classes will share with one another.

Next Tuesday (Nov 23) is DCS Information night for prospective families next year.

In person volunteer rules have been changing continuously. Parents can come in (with submitted volunteer form and verified vaccination record) but have to keep 6' distance from kids. Ok to be less than 6' for less than 15 min.

No guidance on any changes for vaccinated students. School is following CDC guidelines and they'll check to see if anything might be coming.

For students traveling, no mandatory quarantine requirements.

Will there be an ask for vaccine confirmation - Nami hasn't seen or heard anything about this but is keeping an eye out and will pass along if they happen to hear first.

Chris passed along appreciation to the staff. This year has gone much more smoothly than expected and everyone's efforts are deeply appreciated.

Treasurer's report - Jason

Checking \$11,841.55

Savings \$14,970.17

Donations are trickling in. Thank you. If you have questions or want to hear about hardship waivers, please reach out to the treasurers.

Key dates - Erin M

Nov 24 Learning Celebration Early dismissal (12:00)

Nov 25-26 Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL

Dec 2 LWSD PTSA Council Meeting 9:45am-11:15 AM LWSD Resource Center Redmond

Dec 2 DCS Steering Meeting 6:30pm

Dec 20-Jan 3 Winter Break

Jan 20 Community Meeting Speaker (Christy Keating)

Volunteer Update - Susan

Biggest role we need to fill is a coordinator for Winter Event. We still haven't worked out what Winter Event will look like, but we need a volunteer to work on the talent/skit portion whether it's in-person or on-line.

Community Building - Sophie/Shweta

It's hard to plan Winter Event without someone to run the skits, knowing what can we do, and if we have the people to do it. We need to figure out if it's going to be inside or outside and understand how the district will respond to the winter. We'll have to wait until there's more information from the district. Chris suggests doing something similar to Fall Event. Most of it outside with maybe art inside. There are two covered areas to use. A number of people are offering to help.

Friday Specials - Kristin

Proposed dates for Winter Friday Specials (waiting for approval from Ms. Bowser):

February 4 - Friday Special

February 11 - Friday Special

February 18 - off for mid-winter break

February 25 - Friday Special

We have supplies to support any of the following tracks:

1. Digital photography (we have cameras)

2. Paper crafting/card making – we have lots of card stock, fancy scissors, stamps, punches, ribbon and more
3. Beading/jewelry making – we have a ton of jewelry making supplies
4. Hand sewing – we have a bin of sewing crafts
5. Painting – we have a bin of multimedia items to paint plus lots of paint supplies

For winter event it is nice to have one to two performance options – some things that would work would be:

1. Stand up comedy – learn how to deliver a maximum impact joke (1-3 minute joke)
2. Puppet theater or skits – join with a small group to create a puppet theater performance or skit that is up to 3 minutes long. We want to make them stick to 3 minutes max as much as possible or it becomes overwhelming
3. Ensemble/band performance – join with a small group to practice and perform a musical piece and/or lip sync performance.
4. Dance – learn a dance to perform during Winter Event. If we know the song in advance we could add in play along for our musicians who want to perform along.

Walk on/New Business

Pantry Packs

Chris Barrows suggests we support pantry packs (provide food for kids with food insecurity once a week) Managed by our counselor Ms Measham and Hopelink - but she needs help getting fresh fruit into the otherwise nonperishable packs provided by Hopelink. She has shoppers to pick up the fruit but needs funds. Chris proposes using \$600 from our surplus to cover the cost of fresh fruit in the Pantry Packs. There are 7 students a week right now but it has gone up to 20. \$600 should cover it for the remainder of the year. PTSA is not funding this - budgets are tight.

Sophie points out that there's also a giving tree set up at school to help contribute to families. Chris will send info around again regarding the giving tree for families who would like to contribute personally to families in need.

Chris brings Motion to the floor to use \$600 surplus funds to cover the cost of fresh fruit added to Pantry Packs. Sofia seconds the motion. Motion passed by community by verbal ayes and no opposition.

Concern regarding garbage at lunchtime

Parent concern regarding garbage at lunch time. Erin Subcleff says it's an issue due to the school being understaffed and the Olders took the concern to Erin S. They will bring it to Admin. Sending wipes down for kids to clean now, but they will address it with Admin. Erin Subcleff says the Olders are also making videos to address this with K-5 kids throughout the school.

This is something parents are able to help with. We need to bring it to Admin to set up a volunteer schedule.

adjourned at 7:14 pm