

**Discovery Community School**

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

**DCS Steering Meeting Minutes**

**February 3rd, 2022**

**Location: Zoom**

*Presiding:* Barb Boyd

*Minutes:* Dyana Stevens

*Opening: 6:35pm*

Barb opens meeting welcoming community members joining the meeting. Short introductions from various officers and members of the community.

**Principal’s Report – Erin Bowser**

Not too much to report. Covid numbers seem to be coming down a bit, not as many at the school. She has been able to get into classrooms more, visited Olders classroom to see Marketplace today. May have some news about potential to go on Field Trips/Learning Journeys after Mid-winter Break. This week is “Black Lives Matter Week of Action in Schools”, which is an opportunity for students to learn about the Black Lives Matter movement.

Barb asks about parent drivers for Learning Journeys. Erin says it might be a possibility and she will need to get with Alissa in going through the process to get drivers approved.

Barb asks about parent volunteers, what we should be expecting for Friday Specials in regards to parents being on campus. Erin replies that parent volunteers on campus might be a possibility by the 25th.

Dyana asked about Camp Seymour for this year, if it’s going to be a possibility this year. Erin answers that Camp Seymour is not going to be possible this year, but that the teachers are planning on a DCS “camp” for early June.

Erin mentions Mr. Minore (student teaching in the Olders) and how much students and staff are enjoying having him in the classroom.

**Teacher’s Report – Diane Jewell**

Diane mentions that Mr. Minore came in to read to the Youngers and the students loved it. Good opportunity for him to try different grade levels. Conferences went well and teachers are grateful for the community’s 100% participation. All virtual, not ideal but worked out just fine. One nice thing about conferences being virtual was no masks – so it was good to see everyone’s faces. It was a busy day today, starting with Marketplace (was a big hit) and Discovery time in the afternoon (went well). Discovery Time is super popular, should be able to do one more before Friday Specials begin at the end of the month.

$275 Surplus Funds Request from Ms. Jewell for Ms. Stroup to purchase a “A Little Spot of Emotions” series of books by Diane Alber for the students. Barb makes a motion to approve the surplus funds request. Seconded by Dyana Stevens. Barb takes vote, all Yays, no nays. Motion passes.

Barb asks about Teacher Slideshows. Erin (Subcleff) is the teacher representative. Teachers are happy to do slideshows, Barb suggests March Community meeting.

**Community Building – Sophie Truman**

Equity meeting ice breaker yesterday as part of Black Lives Matter At School. They will be meeting every 2nd Wednesday at 7pm for equity discussions “Equity Bites”. Discussion of equity in action vs just an add-on and maybe doing things such as land acknowledgement at the beginning of the community meetings to put equity in action. Sophie asks for steering input on adding a land acknowledgment. Comments from community members are supportive of adding a land acknowledgement to beginning of meetings. Discussion about what it would mean to do so and how we can educate our students as to the “why”. Diane reports that the teachers are in full support. Sophie will look for verbiage from LWSD and the City of Kirkland.

Destiney Noor makes a motion to have land acknowledgments at every DCS gathering. Discussion on how/when to bring the motion to the community. Erin Bowser mentions systems and processes that can get in the way of promoting equity. Steering agrees that adding land acknowledgments to every DCS gathering should be discussed at next Community meeting. This will be added to the agenda for the 2/10 Community meeting and Sophie (community support welcomed) will lead discussion. Motion tabled until 2/10 community meeting.

**Treasurer’s Report – Jason Ahlf**

Checking balance: $ 17,115.83

Savings balance: $ 15,970.99

33% of people have made their donations.

Olivia Teja is asking for additional funds for graduating gifts. $1250 is in the budget, plus $150 for gifts, so $1400 total. Olivia’s estimate for the party at High Trek Adventure Park $17000-$2000 including food and gifts. Additional request for $500/$600. Jason will work with Olivia on getting more detail on what she wants to do.

**Spring Election Preparation – Barb Boyd**

April is when we elect officers. We are looking for a Co-chair, Co-treasurer, Two Co-secretaries (one year commitment and a two-year commitment). Nice to see a lot of the community at this meeting so we can start looking to fill those positions. Katherine Allshouse will be working on explaining the roles.

**Community Building/Winter Event – Sophie/Shweta**

Now called “The Event” (since it’s no longer in Winter), Susan is working on the art boards (request sent today to Alissa). Alissa will follow up for us. David Noor will be doing lights and sound (thank you!), but no current MC or someone to organize the skits. Shweta and Sophie are assuming that it will be primarily outside with a possible “art gallery”. Shweta: we’re looking for someone to take over the Talent Show portion. Susan Grimm: 3 other volunteers willing to help, she will follow up with Shweta and Sophie. Destiny/David: do we have a sound system, or will we be renting one? Sandburg/DCS has a sound system but Sophie thinks it might be a little small. It might need to be requested. Susan will look through her notes re: requesting a sound system. Sophie will connect with Katty in the office to see how we go about requesting the sound system. Discussion of possibly renting equipment (if needed). Kristen offered to locate sound equipment at her school (if needed). The new date for “The Event” will be April 30th.

**Spring Camp Update – Barb**

No real update yet, Chris is waiting to hear back.

**Master Checklist – Dyana**

Feb:

* **Treasurers**: Prepare proposed budget
* **Elections:** Prepare election form
* **Friday Specials:** Friday Specials for Spring

March:

* **Steering:** reviews and approves budget
* **Friday Specials:** Plan for Spring Friday Specials
* **Elections:** Recruit Elected Positions
* **Elections:** Post slate for April election
* **Treasurer:** March Statements
* **Community** approves budget proposal for next year
* **Community Building:** Book Peter Kirk pool for Summer Swim event. Must call on day registration opens (usually around March 15) to secure late August reservation.

Book Rodeo – students can still bring in books until the 28th and the Rodeo is on Feb 28th.

In regards to reserving the Peter Kirk Pool for Swim Event and the picnic shelter for Summer Picnic, the City of Kirkland reservations usually opens in March. Susan will be reaching out re: filling roles for next year after Spring Break.

**Friday Specials - Kristen**

Feb 25th – Catapults, Art & Nature and Paper Fashion, Photography as a 4th track. Could use more volunteers to help with the tracks. Also will probably need tents/rain cover. Still looking for a location to house the Friday Specials materials that are currently at Mary Oemig’s house. Still an outstanding need. Erin (Bowser) might have found a location on campus to store those materials. Barb and Kristen will connect.

**Walkon Topics -** None

*Adjourned: 8:11pm*