



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

DCS Community Meeting Minutes
Date: Oct 13, 2022
Location: Hybrid (School library and Zoom)

Presiding: Barb Boyd

Minutes: Erin Moreland

Opening: 7:03 pm

Welcome - Barb/Sophie

Barb opens the meeting with welcome to families at home and here with us in the library. This is our first in person meeting in over two years. Chrissy Barrows volunteers to read the land acknowledgement

Community introductions - all

Principal's Report – Erin Bowser

Considers DCS a leader in community - our land acknowledgement process brings a message of welcome and awareness to our families here and those to come. Our teachers changed a tradition at the school last year with the celebration of Halloween. It's important that all families and kids feel that they belong. When the teachers learned that there were kids who would miss school on Halloween they changed the celebration to be inclusive to all students. Now we have the Fall Festival and kids dress up like their favorite book character. Now Sanburg does the same. It was a challenging move and rewarding to the whole community.

Nov 9 will be the in person introduction to DCS for folks interested in the lottery. Anyone who wants to help share about the school, let Ms Bowser know.

Oct 27: middle school Learning Journey

Parent driver - forms are available tonight and will be sent out to everyone. Must be an official volunteer, with current vaccinations. No need to revalidate vaccinations.

Olders will have a Learning Journey in Nov.

Any questions from anyone?

Kiran - saw email for Feb outdoor ed chaperones which will be high school or college students. What's the vetting process?

Answer: Common to only have student volunteers, they are vetted, sourced from the honor society, students who want to become teachers. Ms Bouser will work on reaching out to alumni. Junior or Senior or College student

Question: Why can't parent's chaperone

Answer: It used to be student led and then it shifted to parents. Wanting to build the capacity of student leaders. They are great role models for the students also.

Teacher's Report – Diane Jewell & Alissa Osborne

Happy to be back in person, everyone's on the same page. Loving the ABC mission.

Complete the volunteer background check on the district website. Submit driver paperwork and bring vaccination record into school to be checked off (once). Let Alissa know if you have siblings to start enter Kindergarten next year.

If your student is absent - email teacher and Ms O so you don't get the robocall. Extended Day will receive a report of kids who are out.

Remind your kids to bring their water bottle to school. They have some cups available for when kids forget, but the water bottle should be the primary source of water in the classroom. They can refill their water bottles at the sink.

Volunteers working with kids directly need to be vaccinated, if you're not vaccinated for whatever reason, there are still ways to volunteer.

Visitor rules? Don't have visitors come into the school. Don't require proof of vaccination, only if they'll be working directly with students (vendors, presenters, etc). Having visitors is limited because it's hard for the staff to manage who should be there and who shouldn't. That's a security challenge.

Treasurer's Report – Jason/Ramya

Intro to treasurer role - two year commitment. Enter as the co-treasure to learn the role, second year is the primary treasurer.

checking: \$5,683.07

Savings: \$15,981.14

Donations email went out a few days ago. Donation of \$250/child needed before the end of June. The earlier the better. If you need a hardship exception, just email Jason or Ramya and they will take care of it. The way to donate is through the dcsourschoolpages website. It's in Jason's email and he'll send it again. Bottom left of the website - big read Donate Now icon. Payments go through Paypal, you can use your own credit card, easy to track on our end.

13% of families have donated

The donation goes to Friday Specials, Learning Journeys, all school supplies for the classroom, events, summer get togethers, spring camp, etc. Different donation than the PTSA

We're a 501c3 so your donation is tax deductible.

All PTSA activities include DCS as well.... outdoor ed, 3rd grade swim, artisan in residence, after school activities as well.

Corporate Matching: many employers will match donations, a significant source of donation. Just ensure it goes to: **The Community Group of the Discovery Community School**. Sometimes funding has gone to the district school fund. School funds can't be spent with as much ease as the Community Group (Constrained by contracts etc).

Bigger expenses come to the community for approval. In April we'll go over the entire budget so the community can provide input and make changes.

Volunteering/recording hours - Barb

Some employers will pay for your volunteer hours. We used to log hours to have that account if requested by the employer. It used to be on the website but that's not working, so we need to come up with a new way to do this. In the meantime, keep track on your own. There are also some grants that want to know your community involvement.

Really want folks to be involved and not rely on a small group to do everything. Also let us know if a role is too much work - we will get help and reduce the load.

Grandparents are welcome to volunteer as well.

Community Building – Sophie/Jaclyn

The Fall Event is moving from Oct 28 to November 5, because everything else is the same 3:00-5:00, still a game night. Bring your favorite game (with your name on it!) not just board games, active games encouraged too, we'll see what happens! WE'll have cardboard to make our own games. They need cardboard - cut it up, however you want. In Jaclyn's email there is a sign up link.

Please RSVP!

Friday Specials - Kristin/Karen

Starts tomorrow! The four tracks are: Spanish, yoga, teamwork, and colors. Two of the four tracks are being led by new families. Winter track starts on Jan 20.

Campus Sustainability Team - Amanda

PSTA supports three main sustainability programs for our shared campus.

1. Herbicide free program (weeding is only done by volunteers),
2. lunchroom composting and recycling program. We can apply to bring back the food share program (a way to reduce food waste). There's interest from 5th graders but we need a parent to lead this effort.

3. 4th and 5th graders work with Ms Snider to maintain a pollinator garden. They also want to get compost bins in every classroom.

If you have ideas to improve our shared campus - talk to your green team or reach out to Amanda.

Sandburg DCS PTSA update - Aditi

Hearing & Vision screen on Oct 27 - need volunteers

candy buyback first week of November - class with the most candy wins a pizza party

Looking for vp of fundraising

Need parent volunteers for the Middles Learning Journey

Nov 11 next PTSA general meeting

Walkon Topics - all

Christine O'Connell, Fundraising for outdoor camp. Looking for folks to help and new fundraising ideas. Reaching out to restaurants but they tend to only give 10%. Looking to raise \$42,000. Susan, Chrissy, and Kristin are interested in helping. DCS used to submit funds to outdoor ed. We could do that again with a vote from the community. Dance Marathon was fun, kids enjoyed it.

Adjourned: 8:44 pm