



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

### **DCS Steering Meeting Minutes**

**Date: April 6, 2023**

**Location: Zoom**

*Presiding:* Barb Boyd

*Minutes:* Erin Moreland

*Opening:* 7:02 pm with land acknowledgement

### **Principal's Report – Erin Bowser**

Excited for spring break. Getting new DCS families on board for next year - let us know if you need any help connecting. After spring break prepping for SBS testing for grades 3,4,5. Also focusing on raising money for next year's Outdoor Camp. She tracked down some funding that was misallocated to another school based on confusion over community school names.

### **Teacher's Report – Diane Jewell**

Tomorrow is pajama day for fun before Spring Break! Stuffies, functional shoes. Friday Specials options are being introduced tomorrow to the full school in the shared space. Then they'll choose in their classrooms. Sandburg staff asked if we're okay with the seal being our mascot. Lighthouse is the symbol but can we be part of the seals? They wrote up a Sandburg DCS spirit song that refers to the seals.

Q from Mary Ruddy: Talking with a parent after the Tennessee school shooting about how to discuss these events with our kids. Curious to hear about how the teachers talk with the students during the practices.

A from Diane: Staff receive ALICE training (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate). Training approaches are constantly changing as we learn more. At this time, teachers want to be really careful about not scaring kids, so kids and staff don't get stressed/traumatized during the training itself. The practice is centered on doing whatever the teacher says with silence, no matter how silly the instruction is. The drill announcement is: "We're in a lockdown, listen to your teacher." The teachers then walk through the steps of locking down the class, getting anyone from the bathroom, informing the office of who's in the room. Then they talk about trusting the teacher and following any and all instructions while

being completely silent. They don't necessarily practice each motion that might be requested, but focus more on doing whatever it is they are told, no matter how silly or unusual it might seem at the time. It might be to hide, throw things, run in zig zags outside or something else entirely. So the training is centered on trust, focus, and following direction.

General agreement that families might want to hear about this at the next community meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report – Jason**

Checking: \$13,519.

Savings: \$16,542.70

81% of donations (58/73)

Treasurers will be providing reminders at the next community meeting. Spring camp payments will start coming in soon too. We want to wrap up the primary donations to keep things manageable for the treasurers.

### **Friday Specials - Kristin**

4 tracks to pitch to the kids tomorrow:

- Native American traditions (Olders Gma: Cherokee nation)
- Jewelry making
- Architecture with balsa wood
- Comic books

Current leads want to transition into support roles for next year to support continuity. Looking for new leads as they transition out of DCS.

### **Spring Camp planning - Angela, Barb, Jason, Ankini**

Need to let Camp Indianola our finalization plans by late May. Target the 14th for registration.

Angela: good response to the survey (52 responses) 40 percent want to stay for both nights, 40% to stay for Saturday night only, 10% camping, only 4 families responded that they weren't interested. Over 120, camp only has 94 beds. Really strong response, likely have fewer who actually commit and are able to attend. Can't nail down the exact price until we have the total number of people. If you take the deposit and the \$3500 approved, then we've over-covered lodging by \$1200 which could go to food. Assume we need all beds. Just charging for food ends up being around \$13/meal. Figuring out what tool to use for people to register and pay. Jason will look into payment options (the website functionality isn't working for other donation). Ankini will look into an order form approach. Need to detail out the meals how many meals, allergies/sensitivities and for whom, have first aid kits and first aid volunteers. Need to be done by May 14th.

## Master Checklist – Erin

- **Staff Appreciation:** May teacher appreciation planning
- **Volunteer Coordinator:** Recruit start-of-school volunteers
- **Community Building:** Plan Farewell gifts for departing families
- **Green Team:** Green Team Earth Day activities
- **Community:** elects officers
- **Treasurer:** April Statements
- **Spring Camp:** Spring Camp Registration form update
- **Spring Camp:** Kick off at Community meeting
- **Spring Camp:** Registration Opens
- **Community Building:** Book O.O. Denny Park for July Family Picnic
- **Secretary:** Complete insurance application for next year, get a quote and complete negotiations by August Steering.
- **Co-Chairs:** Send meeting notices to community 2 weeks before and solicit agenda. Send reminders at 1 week and at 3 days.
- **School staff (Alissa):** provide contact info for new families for next school year.

## Walkon Topics

Request to add a description of how teachers manage the lock down drills so parents can reflect similar language in any discussions they may be having at home.

Request to bring back the new family buddy system, connecting new families to an existing family to help usher them into the school and new processes. This has been added to the master calendar for April.

*Adjourned: 8:39 pm*