



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

DCS Steering Meeting Notes

Date: February 6th 2025 7pm – 8:30pm

Location: Zoom

Presiding: Aditi Jain (Absent) & Jaclyn Senekerimyan

Minutes: Robin Desilet

Opening: 7:04 pm

Welcome + Announcements - Jaclyn

- Ms. Bowser is not able to be here tonight.

Principal's Report - Kusunose

- Tomorrow is a 2 hour late start. Please drive carefully as it will be very slick out. We look forward to seeing everyone.
- Thank you for all the lunches parents provided during Parent Conferences for the Teachers.
- The missed snow days will probably be added at the end of the school year.

Teacher's Report - Subcleff

- Younger and Middles had Learning Journeys that have been postponed due to the snow. The new date is TBD.
- The 100th day of school is now Feb. 20th. It will be 1,000 days for the 5th graders on the 100th day of school this year.

Treasurer's Report - Lindal/ Puneet (absent; provided by Danya)

- Our current account balances:
 - Checking: \$20,607.46
 - Savings: \$13,965.98
- The Community approved due increases for the 2025/26 school year to \$350.
- Danya reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Treasurers based on community questions and included the following information:

- There are two Treasures at a time, one is in training and they typically split the Steering and DCS community meetings.
- We don't pay taxes because we are a nonprofit. The nonprofit paperwork is filed by the Secretary.
- We have three different systems that are used for managing our finances which include Money Minder, BECU and PayPal.
- The treasurers are responsible for managing the budget, completing reimbursements, and anything else money related.
- At the next Community meeting the Treasurer will go over the budget line by line and the community votes on it.
- The Treasurers will need to start preparing the budget for the next Steering Meeting in March. At that time Steering will review and present to the community at the March meeting.
- Will need to file form 1099-Misc for the 2024 calendar year.
- Breakdown of dues paid to date:

No of paid	52
Total number of students	71
% paid	73
kg paid	10
1st paid	9
Youngers paid	19
Younger Total	22
2nd paid	7
3rd paid	12
middles paid	19
Middle total	24
4th paid	10
5th paid	4
Olders paid	14
Olders total	25

Community Building Chair - Annie

- The Winter Event is in full swing. Liz will be sending reminders out tomorrow. Almost all the 5th graders want to MC the event. People have signed up to volunteer on sign-up genius.
- So far we do not have anyone signed up to coordinate the pool party or summer picnic.

Volunteer Updates - Katherine

- Chris Barrows has volunteered to plan the slide show for departing families which will be played at the May Community meeting.
- We need to identify the volunteer for the post Moving Up Party hosted by the Community Group. This is the 5th grade (no siblings) party.
- Elections: Recruit candidates for elected positions.

Friday Specials - Kara/Karen/Katya

- Winter: Feb 7th and 21st. There should still be Friday Specials tomorrow.
- Spring: April 25th, May 2nd, 9th 16th

Community Meeting - Danya

- Feb. 20th- Guest Speaker
- March 20th- Budget Approval
- April 24th- Board Elections
- May 15th – Departing Families (last community meeting of the year)

Spring Camp - Jenn Botts

- No additional budget request is needed as spending should be similar to 2023 at \$11,015. Last year was cheaper because we did our own food. We are looking to implement the following price increases:
 - Day trip: \$30 per person (+\$5)
 - One night: \$55 per person (+\$5)
 - Two nights: \$85 per person (+\$10)
 - Example: A family of four would pay \$340.
- DCS Community budget covers the deposit of \$3,304, with \$7,711 to be covered by family payments. Estimated attendance: 41-43 families.
- Saturday night has higher attendance than Friday night.

- Last year: 69 beds used (lower than previous years). If demand is high, an extra cabin may be needed, possibly swapping out the Cottage.
- Snacks & crafts: No changes.
- Future deposit funding: The deposit for next year's camp is subsidized by the community and does not need to be repaid.
- Admission fees cover remaining costs, which are paid upfront by the community and reimbursed through family payments.
- No dedicated hardship fund existed last year; requests were covered from the DCS budget. Proposal for partial and full hardship options to increase equity. There were concerns about using the DCS budget for hardship funding, as not all families attend camp. One proposal was to give attending families the option to donate to a hardship fund via a donation button. If unused, funds roll over for the next year. Final decision still to be determined.
- Future deposit structure: Currently a percentage, but could become a set amount. Will be discussed in the budget meeting.
- Theme: Keep it Carnival.
- A question was asked about whether we could have fireworks on the beach. Jenn will inquire.

Master Checklist - Robin & Phoebe

- Suggestions: Include DCS secretaries in the email in creating the powerpoint slides so they can have access to the info before the meeting.

Master Checklist:

- 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. - Annalise will book it but we still need someone who will run it.
- Community Building: We need to reserve O.O. Denny shelter for summer picnic. It was discussed to move it to a new location but it has not been determined yet. Discussed possible park options and decided we will have it at Big Finn Hill Park this year.
- Co-Chairs: Send meeting notices to the community 2 weeks before and solicit agenda. Send reminders for 1 week and 3 days.

- Volunteer: Identify volunteer who is planning the slide show for departing families (will play at the May Community meeting) - Chris Barrow
- Identify the volunteer for the post Moving Up Party hosted by the Community Group: Start planning this 5th grade (only, no siblings) party. - Christine & Caro

Walk-on Topics - Anyone

- Learning Journey Shirts/vests/etc.: Based on teacher discussions, the current parent-to-child ratio is approximately 2:1, so additional identification items are not necessary at this time. If the ratio changes or if there is a greater need for visual identification, this may be revisited. Emphasis on kids learning to stay with their parents rather than relying on external markers.

Adjourned: 8:09pm