



Discovery Community School

<http://dcs.ourschoolpages.com/Home>

DCS Steering Meeting Notes

Date: Nov. 7th 2024

Location: Zoom

Presiding: Jaclyn Senekerimyan & Aditi Jain

Minutes: Robin Desilet

Opening: 7:05pm

Welcome + Announcements - Aditi

Principal's Report - Bowser/ Kusunose

- Kids seem to really be enjoying Friday specials and there is a diverse range of topics.
- Our next Community Meeting is November 21st and we will also hold our DCS Info Night before the meeting at 5:30pm in the library. Then we will take families down to see the school. It would be great if we had current DCS students or parents available to share. If not, we do have a previous video that can be used. We don't have a lot of open spaces this year, but more than last year. In Ms. Bowser's message, she will make sure to mention that it's important that it's a good fit for your family because of the amount of community involvement and also that dues will be increasing next year due to inflation.
- Lost and found items will be donated after tomorrow if not claimed.
- There is a Veteran's Day assembly tomorrow and some veterans will be joining us.
- Class pictures and retakes are coming up later this month.

Teacher's Report - Subcleff

- The question was posed as to whether or not parents find the presentation at the community meeting to be helpful or if they would find a typical curriculum night to be more valuable. While there are pro's and con's to both, it would be nice to have the ability to see the classroom and ask more specific questions to the teacher (vs. in the large group). One issue could be parents having to split between multiple classrooms because of siblings. One idea was to have 15 minute intervals between the presentations.

Treasurer's Report - Lindal/ Puneet

- So far 39 families (71 students) have paid their dues. Olders are lagging. The Treasurer's will send a reminder at the end of November and the teachers will send something out as well via ParentSquare.
- We want to encourage and set the standard for families that dues are due by the end of the year. Some people may pay in the new year to best use different company matches or for tax purposes, but we can ask people to try to have it in by the end of the year. If they need more time, they can let us know. It really helps to have all dues in before the budget meeting so we can plan accordingly. The Treasurers will email people directly who have not paid, starting in January. They will also put the link to pay dues front and center in the email that is sent out.
- The Treasurers will let the teachers know how much money is left in their collective budget for the year. This year teachers allowances are in a lump sum versus having individual budgets, per their request as they are sharing supplies.
- The Co-Chairs can now have access to Money Minder and Lindall added by Jaclyn and Aditi with view only access.
- Lindall will work on filing our taxes.
- We need to increase our dues because of inflation and make sure we do not continue to run a deficit, as we've had to take from savings. Treasurers will look at our current budget and prior spending and bring a recommendation to the December 5th Steering meeting to vote on it. We will then bring it to the Community Meeting on 1/9 for a vote. This will give adequate time to let new families know before they make a decision in March.

Community Building Chair - Annie

- The Fall Event is scheduled for 11/16 and is on track.
- We are still looking for a coordinator for the Winter event. We will try to recruit someone at the Fall Event. The supporting roles have all been filled.
- The next Parent Nights Out is on 11/15 at Flatstick pub. Amy is coordinating the event and needs people to RSVP to determine if we have the numbers for the room rental. Will send out additional reminders and a deadline to RSVP.
- Room parents are currently working on the winter holiday appreciation for the teachers/staff.

Volunteer Updates - Katherine

At this time, we are still looking to fill the following roles:

- 4th grade room rep
- 4th grade learning journey coordinator) all learning journeys have been planned, but it would be great to find someone to support and train for next year.
- winter event coordinator

- additional hybrid meeting coordinator
- green team/herbicide free coordinator

We hope to fill our missing volunteer positions from new families.

Friday Specials - Kara/Karen/Katya

- Going well, no updates.

IT/Website - Anwar & Jeremiah

- No updates given.

PTSA - Anh

- The next meeting is in person only on Thursday, Nov. 14th. DCS families are encouraged to attend (volunteer opportunities, enrichment, budget, etc.).
- So far, the PTSA has reached 41% of their goal.
- Snapdoodle has passive fundraising (Sunday Nov. 24 - Nov 30th).
- Swag is back.
- The math challenge is continuing.
- Winter enrichment registration will open on Dec. 4th.
- If you buy the yearbook by the end of Nov. you will get 10% off.

Community Meeting - Aditi & Danya

- The speaker this year for the community meeting is Katie Davis and she will speak about parenting in a Tech world (digital safety for kids). The PTSA will split the costs, and the speaker is available (saved the date). It will cost around \$750 and there may be a travel charge (no more than \$800 total). This will be a Hybrid meeting. She is an Associate Professor at UW and Aditi will try to get a Bio to send to the community.

Master Checklist - Robin & Phoebe

- Reviewed master checklist items.
- Amy will check with Jeremiah about getting meeting notes posted on the DCS website.

Adjourned: 8:22pm

Next Community Meeting: Nov. 21st 2024 (Hybrid)

Next Steering Committee Meeting: Dec. 5th, 2024 (Zoom)