

**Discovery Public School of Faribault  
School Board Meeting Minutes  
March 23, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.**

The Board of Education of Discovery Public School of Faribault met for its regular board meeting at 4:30 p.m. on March 23, 2017 in the Discovery Public School of Faribault's cafeteria.

01-01 **Call to order and Roll Call**

**Members Present:** Russ Kennedy-Chair; Dan Weisser-Vice-Chair; Dirk Wells; Sheila Karn- Treasurer; Kay Hammer; Jim Severson- Ex-Officio

**Authorizer:** Dan Jett

**Guests:** Grant Wilson- Heartman Insurance

01-02 **Approval of the Agenda-** *A motion was made by Sheila Karn to approve the March 23, 2017 agenda. The motion was seconded by Kay Hammer. Motion carried.*

01-03 **Approval of the Minutes-** Board members would like more detail in the notes. *A motion was made by Dan Weisser to approve the February 23, 2017 School Board Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Dirk Wells. Motion carried.*

01-04 **Analysis of the Bills:** Board asked if Steven Macklays questions were addressed from last month's meeting and they were.

01-05 **Citizen Participation:** None

01-06 **Correspondence:** Our enrollment is: 18 middle schoolers and 43 High Schoolers for a total of 61. We only have 1 week left of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Graduation is scheduled for May 31, 2017. We are still waiting to hear from Kraig Kiger about the NASP program so we may implement it into our Phy Ed program.

01-07 **Committee Updates:**

07.1 **Community:** none

07.2 **Finance:** (Russ Kennedy, Jim Severson and Sheila Karn)- We did not meet this week due to illness. Marie Sachs (our Accounts Payable Specialist at BDKA), thanks Discovery with cashing checks/deposits within 30 days. This keeps our account current. BDKA was requested to come to our next board meeting in April, 2017. Our financial report is healthy, beginning the fiscal year with a \$161,878 fund balance which is 19.75%. We are 10 students higher than a year ago, which because of enrollments growth, has helped our school budget and maintain a long-range budget projection of about 18% fund

balance. Our prior year audit ended with a clean report and this reflects on the fiscal accountability. Discovery Public School should be receiving the finance award for their excellence in financial reporting. The financial goal of the school's finances is to continue to increase enrollment and work towards a fund balance of 15%-20%, while also meeting the needs of the school's educational programs and staffing.

07.3 **Academic Committee** – (Dan Weisser, Dirk Wells and Jim Severson)- Testing time for the MCA test is scheduled for the first week in April. Students have been really good at making individual goals with incentives. They are taking the pretests and are doing it seriously and with good effort. NWEA testing is scheduled in May. Dan Weisser is making sure that the programs and computers are up and running in time for all testing scheduled. Each teacher has been working with students with taking all practice exams and walking them through. The pretest results for geometry was low. The teachers are trying to work in improving the curriculum to address geometry more. Dan feels giving the middle schoolers half of the test first in the morning and the second half the next day might help their score. The middle schoolers are the only one who need to take both the MCA and NWEA test. Not all Junior and seniors take the testing, but we are encouraging them to and also letting them know that the school offers to pay for the testing if they so choose to take it. The board requested that we would like to compare scores from one year to the next to see if there are areas we still need to improve on. We are requesting this due to bigger colleges require a score of 18 and would like to aim higher to help students continue their education after high school. The board also would like a monthly report on FYI's (disciple referrals and suspensions). We need to address this issue because if we can help the student and get behaviors down, there is more learning in the classroom.

07.4 **Environmental Education** – Sam encourages all board members to look at the science aquaponics window farm and see how it has changed since last month. The science class has been talking about the new spring garden that they will be working on. Sam is also scheduling soon the Straight River cleanup of buckthorn in that area in April.

## **8. Old Business:**

8.1 **Wellness Policy Update:** We had a few board members that came forward to be on the Nutritional Committee. Teacher- Dirk Wells, Ex-Officio- Jim Severson and Parent-Sheila Karn. We just need to find a student to add to our committee by April and when they will be meeting. This committee will develop guidelines set by MDE for the school based on sound, objective, clinical science as well as practical experience in fostering optimal health status. The guidelines that the committee set are their best attempt at figuring out what types of foods do and don't contribute to overall health of Discovery Public School's students while also promoting a healthy diet.

### **8.2 Parent/Student Handbook Update:**

Board members will get a copy of the handbook and go over it and see if we need to make any changes to it. We also had Dirk Wells and Russ Kennedy volunteer to be on the committee for this.

## **9. New Business:**

9.1 **Insurance Policy Renewal/Heartman Insurance:** Grant Wilson explained that our package renewal is up due to \$3M pollution requirement premium being increased to \$1000. Our experience mod went away and is now a 1 from .93. Grant is asking for a few more days so he can try to get our renewal down more. It was a 7% increase.

### **9.2 Pennies for patients report:**

In February 2017, we had our annual pennies for patients. The students did extremely well with collecting \$1,161 total for the cause. The students met their goal and the best outcome out of the 4 years the school has been collecting for Penny's for Patients.

### **01-10 Adjournment:**

*Board members requested to check their schedules to confirm that they will be in attendance for the Thursday, April 20, 2017 meeting at 4:30 p.m. A motion to adjourn was made by Russ Kennedy and seconded by Dan Weisser. Motion carried.*

**Respectfully submitted: Sheila Karn, Treasurer and Board Member.**