

**Discovery Public School**  
**924 – 1<sup>st</sup> Street N.E.**  
**Faribault, MN 55021**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 16, 2020 @ 4:30pm**

We believe all children can learn.

We believe a trusting, caring, and nurturing environment must pervade the entire school.

We believe in including as many children as possible in all of the learning opportunities.

We believe all of our actions should be consistent with our purpose and vision.

We believe students should be taught “how” to think, not “what” to think.

We believe the primary purpose of education is to teach children “how” to learn.

We believe children must take responsibility for and be actively involved in their learning.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** *The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Sharon Hansen. Russ Kennedy (Chair); arrived approximately 5 min late, Kay Hammer, Sharon Hansen, Cody Hanson, Kari Ann Schmidt, and Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), were present. Jim Severson (Vice-Chair) and S. Sam Macklay (Secretary) were excused.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Kay Hammer made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody Hanson. The motion carried (4-0).*
3. **Approval of the Minutes:** *Cody Hanson made a motion to approve the December 19, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Kay Hammer. The motion carried (4-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The financial statement was reviewed by the board. Dan received the answers to our questions from the December Meeting (November Financials) and shared them in the finance report. Cody H. made a motion to accept the December 2019 Financial Statements, as submitted in the school board packet. The motion was seconded by Kay H. The motion carried (4-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**
  - 6.1 **Director’s Report:** Cash on Hand: \$221,698.38 Enrollment: 61
    - \*A few students have transferred out recently, but 5 possible students to start 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter (Feb 3, 2020).
    - \*Still not progress on Old Building. Mr. Lee says it will begin soon and is expected to take 3-4 months.
    - \*We will definitely be at the New Building through June 30, 2020. Sharon Hansen asked where we would hold summer school. Depends on what our decision is and whether the Old Building is complete by then. Maybe have one session in each location or, depending on commitment by students, only hold one session.
    - \*Spring Break Bussing Options – Dan spoke to Faribault Transportation. They are willing to bus students. The rate is \$330 per day, per bus. Dan let them know we would prefer to use only one bus if possible. Dan shared that he is less comfortable having Sam Macklay pick up students in our school van given the large distance the students live from each other and the school. It was also noted that insurance might cover the cost of bussing as it is due to the fire that we had to add those days to our calendar.
  - 6.2 **Community:** (Dan W.) There was nothing to report.

**6.3 Finance:** (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Dan shared an email from Brenda Kes in which she responded to the questions that were brought up at the December 19, 2019 meeting.

**6.4 Academic Committee:** (Dan W., Jim S., Sharon H.)

\*Sharon reported that teachers would be using the Wednesday Social Emotional Learning class period to check in with students about quarter 2 grades. Students will look at midterm grades and progress reports with their SEL teacher, and also have the opportunity to check in with other teachers and get missing work. They will then have time to work on missing work.

\*Sharon and Dan developed a new schedule for Quarter 3. Middle school students will be separated into two groups (8<sup>th</sup> grade and 6-7<sup>th</sup> grade) for math and science. This will allow the teachers of those classes to address the standards for the individual grades more efficiently as opposed to a cyclic model of teaching each grade level standard to all middle school students on a rotating schedule or trying to teach three different lessons in the same classroom. To accommodate the new schedule, Ally Luthe (social studies) will take over teaching the Career Readiness class with assistance and support from Sharon Hansen.

**6.5 Environmental Education:** (Sam M., Jim S., Sharon H.) Sharon reported that the Environmental Learning Plan was reviewed by herself, Dan, and Allie Peterson (science). They were concerned that changes would be required, especially to the composting activity, due to the fire and the move. Our current ELP will be fine since the goal of all students tending to the composting project was completed, and the rest of the goals can still be completed at our new location. As a team, they also completed the survey that will be used to measure students' increase capacity for identifying and taking action on environmental issues.

**7. Discussion Items:**

**7.1 School Board Training:** ACNW Sounding Board: Board Minutes (Presenter: Dan Weisser)

**7.2 Old Building vs New Building:**

- Our 3 year lease with Mr. Lee at the Old Building is completed on June 30, 2020.
- There has been no work completed on the old building in over a month. Once construction begins it will take 3-4 months (or longer) to complete.

Two options:

Option # 1: Move back to Old Building	Option #2 Stay in New Building
Earliest we can move is probably July Have been with Mr. Lee for 14 years (we know him) Mr. Lee has agreed to keep the rent the same and to increase his annual donation from \$2000 to \$6000	Not enough bathroom space now (would need access to more bathrooms) Unsure how rent would change with needed improvements Is new landlord willing to do a sliding lease scale based on our enrollment?

- Discussion was conducted regarding the pros/cons of each location.
- Both landlords are motivated to rent to us
- Shaan has mentioned that he is very pro-education and would like to see a school in this location.
- KariAnn voiced concerns about being so close to a busy highway
- Kay suggested that we need a strategy in place for making our decision
  - Research Prime Properties, LLC (new landlord's company)

- Create a complete list of needs for both locations (example – fix heating/cooling/windows in old building or restructuring of new location to meet our needs)
- Dan shared his vision for what we could do with part of the upstairs to provide more room for phy-ed and lunch
- Sharon noted that growing our school is only an option at the new location. In the old location our enrollment cap is around 75 students, which is a little higher than we have been enrolling

It was decided that we would develop a clear vision of what we need in order to sign a lease in either location by next meeting.

**7.3 Prime Properties LLC (Shaan)/Communication:** Shaan will be in attendance at the February meeting to answer questions and discuss options.

**7.4 Student Suspension/Withdrawal:** Dan updated the Board on a student's previous Suspension and Enrollment Status. A DPS student had received a 5 day Suspension for bringing drugs into the school, police were called. This was the student's 3rd serious offense. The student and parent were warned that a 4th violation would lead to an expulsion hearing. The student brought alcohol to school the day before DPS's Holiday Break, and police were notified. The student was intoxicated and in possession of alcohol. The parents were given the option of signing a Withdrawal Agreement or attending an Expulsion Hearing. They chose to sign the Withdrawal Agreement and enroll their child at a different school. Dan mentioned that he would like the Board to review all policies regarding Expulsion if similar incidents come up.

## **8. Action Items:**

**8.1 Revised 2018-19 Annual Report:** Sharon H. reported that there were only a couple of corrections needed on the Annual Report based on feedback from ACNW. Two of our statutory purposes were not addressed in that section, and the z-scores for our academic goals are now available. *Cody H. made a motion that we approve the revisions made to the 2018-19 Annual Report. The motion was seconded by Kay H. The motion carried (5-0).*

**8.2 DPS Mileage Reimbursement:** Dan shared our current DPS mileage reimbursement policy. We currently reimburse at a rate of \$0.51 per mile. The federal rate has changed to \$0.575 per mile (down from \$0.58). We do not require frequent travel for any of our staff. *Sharon Hansen made a motion to keep the current reimbursement rate of \$0.51. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

**9. Adjournment:** Board members are reminded that our next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for February 20th, 2020 at 4:30pm. *Russ K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Kay H. The motion carried (5-0).*

***Respectfully submitted: Sharon Hansen***