

**Discovery Public School
126 Eighth Street NW
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2019 @ 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 Russ Kennedy. Russ Kennedy (Chair), Jim Severson (Vice-Chair), S. Sam Macklay (Secretary), Sharon Hansen, Cody Hanson, and Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), were present. Kay Hammer arrived at 4:35.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Jim S. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*
3. **Approval of the Minutes:** *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the June 20, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Jim S. The motion carried (5-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *Sharon H. made a motion to accept the June 2019 Financial Statements, as submitted in the school board packet. The motion was seconded by Jim S. The motion carried (6-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**

6.1 Director’s Report: Cash on Hand: \$40,065.69

Enrollment – 58

Male - 36 Female – 22 (one new student for summer school)

Updates

*Summer School Session 2 – 5 students

*Beginning IT Project next week

- Updating Computer Lab

- Adding more Chromebooks (SPED and Gen. Ed.)

*Received New Art Curriculum, and New SEL Curriculum

6.2 Community: (Dan W.) No report.

6.3 Finance: (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Dan reported that Brenda Kes felt that a meeting was unnecessary since the new annual budget was approved at the last school board meeting.

6.4 Academic Committee: (Dan W., Jim S., Sharon H.) Sharon submitted the following report:

Last week we received our Social Emotional Learning Curriculum from the Faribault Youth Investment organization. The two we selected were School-Connect for our high school students, which includes four modules. For this year we will teach module 4 during the career readiness class because it is focused on the same subject matter. We will teach Module 1 to ninth grade students, Module 2 to tenth grade students, and Module 3 to eleventh and twelfth grade students. This may change next year because this year's 11th grade students will have already completed module 3. We also received the Lion's Quest: Skills for Adolescence curriculum for our middle school students. This curriculum is geared toward students of that age to help them learn the skills they need to get through the tough middle school years.

We were awarded grant funds by the Faribault Youth Investment organization to implement this curriculum over the next four years. The amount we were awarded is the value of the curriculum we received, \$1928.25. We chose to implement this curriculum to help us reach our academic and attendance goals, and as part of our World's Best Workforce Plan. Social-emotional skills are necessary for students to lead happy and productive lives. This ties directly to our mission and vision. By building students' social emotional skills, we expect to see an improvement in attendance and academic effort as students learn to manage their emotions and set goals for their future.

Yesterday Dan and I ordered the ACT Tessera assessment to be administered in the fall to get a baseline of our students' social-emotional skills. This assessment has been designed and tested to be highly valid in assessing social emotional skills in students. This will allow us to get an accurate picture of our students and the effectiveness of our new curriculum. This assessment will cost \$10 per student assessed, so roughly \$600 each year.

The school has also purchased a new art curriculum so that the art class can be more structured this year.

6.5 Environmental Education: (Sam M., Jim S., Sharon H.) Sam M. and Sharon H. met with Dan W. to write the strategies and evaluation methods for the five areas in the Environmental Learning Plan. These will be submitted to ACNW for the authorizers' approval before the school board can implement them.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: *Charter School Employment Law* (Presenter: Dan Weisser)

Two videos were presented. The first discussed how employment laws are a framework for conflict resolution, for the mutual benefit of the school board and the employees, and the setting of board policies. The point of emphasis was that education is a "people business" and everyone's dignity must be respected. The second video examined specific statutes concerning employee agreements, workplace discrimination, administrator requirements, workplace safety, licensed teaching staff, and "at will" employment. The board discussed the meaning and ramifications of "at will" employment.

8. Action Items:

8.1 Approval of the 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes: *Cody H. made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.2 School Psychologist 2019-2020 Contract (MG Psych Consulting): The board reviewed and discussed the contract. *Sam M. made a motion that we approve the School Psychologist Contract for August 1st, 2019 through June 30th, 2020. The motion was seconded by Kay H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.3 2019-2020 Special Education Teacher Contract/Jean Volkmuth: The board reviewed and discussed the contract. *Kay H. made a motion to approve the teaching contract with Jean Volkmuth. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.4 2019-2020 Special Education Teacher Contract/Michele Horak: The board reviewed and discussed the contract. Dan W. reported that he feels that Michele will be a great asset to our school. She has over twenty years' experience and comes highly recommended. *Sam M. made a motion to approve the teaching contract with Michele Horak. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.5 2019-2020 Science Teacher Contract/Allison Peterson: The board reviewed the contract and discussed the second-to-last provision. The contract is contingent upon Allison receiving a Minnesota State Science Teaching License and PELSB out-of-field permission for other needed licensure areas. *Sharon H. made a motion that we approve the teaching contract with Allison Peterson. The motion was seconded by Kay H. The motion carried (6-0).*

9. Adjournment: Board members are reminded that our next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for August 15th, 2019 at 4:30pm. *Russ K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary