

Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
April 15, 2021 @ 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), Cody Hanson, Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), and Sharon Hansen were present. Kay Hammer and Kari-Ann Schmidt attended remotely, via “Google Meet”. Nalani McCutcheon (Osprey Wilds Associate Director of Charter School Authorizing) also attended remotely.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Jim S. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (7-0).*
3. **Approval of the March 25, 2021 minutes:** *Sam M. made a motion to approve the March 25, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (7-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The financial statement was reviewed by the board. Jim S. made a motion to accept the [As of] March 31, 2021 Financial Statements, as submitted in the school board packet. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (7-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**
 - 6.1 **Director’s Report:** Cash on Hand: \$109,387 (not including PPP loan) Enrollment: 53
 - DPS had 1 student graduate at the end of Qtr. 3.
 - DPS returned to full time in person learning on 4/12/21 (after moving to DL due to several positive Covid-19 test results). DPS consulted with MDH and RCPH before making this decision.
 - DPS will continue to use Fridays as a Distance Learning Day. DPS will offer Office Hours by appointment on Fridays for students who are behind or need extra help. This has worked out very well this year, for students who get behind.
 - DPS Staff have the option to be tested every two weeks for Covid-19, this started on Feb. 3rd.
 - DPS had a virtual site visit from OW on 3/11/21 (discussion item).
 - 2nd OW Site Visit is scheduled for 4/27/21.
 - 6.2 **Community:** (Dan W.) No report.
 - 6.3 **Finance:** (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Dan and Russ met with Brenda Kes, yesterday. Enrollment is stable and sufficient for this year’s budget. Enrollment numbers look promising for next year. Our PPP

loan money can be used to retain staff, even if enrollment drops. ESSR money (\$52,000 for next year) can be used for COVID-19 related expenses, remedial teaching, technology purchases, and a “COVID-19 Coordinator”. The board will discuss staff salaries at the next meeting.

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

We had 2 students take the ACT on March 30, 2021. They took the test very seriously and gave it their best effort.

Next week (4/19) we will begin MCA testing.

Update on our goals with Osprey Wilds:

Indicator 1: Mission Related Outcomes

Measure 1.1 [CCR] – 10 Points: From FY19 to FY21, the aggregate percentage of students in grades 9-12 who will be on-track to graduate will be equal to or greater than 70%.

This will be measured by calculating each student’s credits at the end of each year, and noting whether or not they will be able to earn 22.5 credits by the end of senior year.

As of the end of Quarter 3, including three students that have already graduated, we have 69.2% of students on track to graduate (27/39). That number will be 71.8% (28/39) if one student successfully completes summer school. We feel that it will be very important this year to strongly encourage students to participate in summer school to regain credits and get back on track.

Indicator 10: Attendance

Measure 10.1 – 5 Points: From FY19 to FY21 the average of the school’s annual consistent attendance rates is at least 10 percentage points greater than the baseline (FY18 – 47.4) OR equal to the state.

As of the end of Quarter 3, our estimated consistent attendance rate is 44.4. We believe that this is because of several students who do not check in on their distance learning days during hybrid. Unfortunately, this will not change drastically over fourth quarter because students still have one day per week of distance learning in our in-person model

6.5 Environmental Education: (Alli P., Jim S., Sharon H.)

Students have completed their survey for Indicator 3: Attitude. Our evaluation method for this indicator area was that all students who participate in trash cleanup will complete a short survey to measure the impact this task had on their attitude, appreciate, and concern for the environment. The average response on a scale of 1 to 5 will be greater than 3.

For the 35 students who completed the survey, the average response to the question “Since beginning this project, how much have you realized how our actions affect the ecosystem?” was 3.77, meeting our goal for this indicator area.

In addition, 27 of the 28 students who completed the survey in physical education classes said they would continue to pick up garbage to help our environment.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: Conducting a Board Election (mncharterboard.com). Most members already completed the training and submitted their certificates of completion to Dan. We discussed our upcoming election, recruiting members, retaining members, and our by-laws concerning the Board governance type.

7.2 MDH COVID-19 Guidance: Data for K-12 Schools: 14-day COVID-19 Case Rate by County. The latest data showed Rice County at an infection rate of 54/10,000. This is double the rate for last month. If it reaches 100/10,000, we expect a return to distance learning.

7.3 Return to In-Person Learning (4/12/21): The students were very glad to see each other. The teachers reported that it is LOUD in the school now but the students seem focused and engaged.

7.4 OW Virtual Site Visit (3/11/21): The Board reviewed and discussed the written report that Nalani submitted (printed in the meeting packet). Nalani also answered some questions from Board members.

7.5 PPP Loan (Bergan KDV): Dan reported that we were approved for the loan. He deposited a check for \$115,000 at First United Bank. There is a good chance that the loan will be forgiven.

7.6 School Board Elections, May (Sam, Jim and Sharon): All three members accepted their nominations for another term. Kari-Ann will be able to serve as our parent member for another year. The election notice will be posted at the school and on our website. Ballots will be given to all staff and parents/guardians of students. Jim suggested that Karen “twist the arms” of any eligible voter that visits the office to increase voter participation.

8. Action Items: No action items this month.

9. Adjournment: Board members were reminded that our next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2021 at 4:30pm. *Jim S. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (7-0).*

Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary