

Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
March 25, 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 Jim Severson. 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”. Grant Wilson, representing the Hanover Insurance Group, was also present. Russ Kennedy (Chair) arrived at 4:33 p.m.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*
3. **Approval of the February 18, 2021 minutes:** *Cody H. made a motion to approve the February 18, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (5-0), Sam M. abstained.*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The financial statement was reviewed by the board. Jim S. made a motion to accept the [As of] February 28, 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: \$104,085.92 Enrollment: 53
 - 2 new 6th grade students started just before Spring Break, a couple of older students have dropped off. 1 new 7th grader will be starting next week. DPS has 1 student on track to graduate at the end of Qtr. 3. Enrollment has remained steady throughout the school year.
 - DPS plans to return fully in person on 4/6/21, this is the first day of Qtr. 4
 - 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. Dan administers the (saliva) tests in his office and the individual’s results are received in two days.
 - 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 met with Brenda Kes by phone several times concerning the application for the Federal PPP loan. She sees no problems with our current financial situation.

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

We received our Academic Performance Evaluation for 2018-19 from Osprey Wilds. Our score indicates that we are eligible for renewal, although there are some areas in which we need to improve.

Three students are planning to take the ACT test next Tuesday, March 30, 2021.

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

The weather is warming up, so science classes are getting ready to start picking up trash on the trail again. We are also discussing another Adopt-a-Highway trip this spring.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: None this month.

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 27/10,000.

7.3 Return to In-Person Learning (4/6/21): Dan completed a consult with MDH and it was determined that DPS can safely return to full time, in-person learning. Fridays will continue to be “office days” when students can meet with teachers for extra help.

7.4 OW Virtual Site Visit (3/11/21): Nalani McCutcheon (Osprey Wilds liaison) conducted a site visit, via computer. Dan reported that she was impressed with our modified (for the pandemic) educational programs and happy with how well the virtual technology functioned. Her written report has not yet arrived.

8. Action Items:

8.1 DPS Insurance Quotes (Grant Wilson): Grant informed us that our previous provider is no longer offering to insure schools. He reviewed and answered questions about a detailed proposal (included in the meeting packet) from the Hanover Insurance Group. Grant also recommended that we drop the Inland Marine Policy Coverages since they cover items that we don't have. The total estimated premium for the Hanover Commercial Insurance Proposal is \$10,236. This is about \$1200 less than what we paid last year. *Sam M. made a motion to contract with the Hanover Insurance Group for our Commercial Insurance (less the Inland Marine coverage) effective 04/01/2021 until 04/01/2022. The motion was seconded by Kay H. The motion carried (7-0).*

8.2 Indigo Education Contract 21-22 SY (SPED): Dan reported that he is very satisfied with the work of our special education director, Kori Ryan. The new contract (included in the meeting packet) is identical to the current one except for an adjustment from 42 to 47 weeks to reflect the actual time that service has been provided each year. The cost (maximum \$18,000) will also be the same. *Jim S. made a motion that we accept the DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIGO EDUCATION AND DISCOVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL OF FARIBAULT, commencing on July 1, 2021 and expiring on June 30, 2022. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (7-0).*

8.3 PPP Loan (Bergan KDV): Brenda Kes has informed Dan that the school is eligible for a Federal Paycheck Protection Program loan for \$100,000. Bergan KDV will take care of the application process (already begun) and the disbursement of the funds for a fee of ~\$2000. Board approval is required to continue the application process. *Sam M. made a motion that we authorize the application for the PPP loan at 1st United Bank, that we authorize Dan Weisser to sign for the loan, and that we authorize Bergan BKV to take care of the paperwork. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (7-0).*

9. Adjournment: Board members were reminded that our next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2021 at 4:30pm. *Russ K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim S. The motion carried (7-0).*

Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary