

Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
September 16, 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.

Per MN statute 13D.021 subdivision 1.1: “The DPS Board Chair has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic.”

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** *The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Russ Kennedy. Russ Kennedy (Chair), S. Sam Macklay (Secretary), Cody Hanson, Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), and Sharon Hansen were present. Jim Severson (Vice-Chair) attended remotely, via “Google Meet”.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Sam M. made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of item 7.3, Virtual Attendance for the Public at School Board Meetings. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*
3. **Approval of the August 19, 2021 Minutes:** *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the August 19, 2021 minutes, with the corrected date, ~~January 21~~ July 15 in the heading of item 3.. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The financial statement was reviewed and discussed by the board. Sharon H. made a motion to accept the [As of] August 31, 2021 Financial Statements, as submitted in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (5-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**
 - 6.1 **Director’s Report:** Cash on Hand: \$ 223,650.43 Enrollment: 50
 - DPS’s 1st day of school was 8/30/21.
 - DPS has been granted provisional approval as a State-approved online provider. This allows DPS to offer online learning options to their own resident and previously-enrolled students for the 2021-22 school year. (This was done to provide flexibility due to possible Covid-19 situations that could come up.)
 - Planning to hire a 4th paraprofessional due to IEP hour needs.
 - 6.2 **Community:** (Dan W.) The Faribault High School homecoming is Friday, September 24th. There will be no school for DPS students but the staff will report for a workshop day.

6.3 Finance: (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Brenda Kes has been advising Dan on when to apply for various grants that we are eligible for. Sharon H. is helping him write the narratives for the applications, when necessary.

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

NWEA testing starts next Monday, September, 20, 2021. Students will take the reading test on Monday, the math test on Tuesday, and the Science test on Wednesday. Students who were absent will make up the tests in the afternoon the following week.

We have met with all juniors and seniors regarding credits. Some students will be working on credit recovery this year to make up for missed credits over the past couple of years. Two of them have already begun an 8th hour credit recovery class.

We have one student currently attending a class at South Central through the PSEO program. We have at least one other student who is planning to attend South Central beginning in January. There are a couple other students who may be interested also.

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

We received feedback from Osprey Wilds regarding our ELP updates. We have updated our ELP according to their feedback and returned it for review. All of the comments were just to help us be as specific as possible on how we will evaluate our students, so it is clear whether we have met our goals.

The first issue of our Environmental Science Newsletter is live. This newsletter is written by our 11th and 12th grade students in the Environmental Science Writing class, a collaboration between our English teacher and our Science teacher. The first issue is pretty impressive. It can be viewed at <https://dpsenvironmentalsciencenewsletter.com/>

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: Develop an Effective Relationship with the Authorizer

(<http://mncharterboard.com>) Board members complete the training on their own time and send their certificates of completion to Dan. The Board discussed some of the issues presented in the training. Dan has been informed that our renewal year has been changed to SY2022-2023 (instead of this school year) due to the pandemic disruption.

7.2 COVID-19 Update: Since school began, one student's family reported a positive test result, resulting in a 10 day, at-home quarantine. Masks are optional in the school. Most of the staff is vaccinated. The infection rate in Rice County is approaching the level where schools went to on-line learning last year.

7.3 Virtual Attendance for the Public at School Board Meetings: Links and instructions to join the Regular School Board Meetings (via "Google Meet") and to view the School Board Meeting Packet are available on the Discovery Public School of Faribault website (isd4081.org), 72 hours before the scheduled meeting.

8. Action Items:

8.1 2021-2022 Testing Calendar: The Board reviewed the calendar of proposed testing dates (printed in the meeting packet). *Sam M. made a motion that the Board approve the 2021-2022 Testing Calendar. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.2 Foster Care Transportation Agreement: Dan reported that having this agreement in place is a new requirement for securing federal Title I funds. The Board reviewed the agreement (printed in the meeting packet). *Sharon H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Rice County to (if necessary) evenly split the costs of transportation of students that have been placed into foster care by the county. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.3 Behavior Analytic Services from SWWC Service Cooperative: Dan reported that the Special Education Director has recommended that we enter into agreement with this company. The company observes the behaviors (detrimental to learning) of designated students and makes written suggestions to the educational staff about methods for dealing with these behaviors. The Board reviewed the agreement (printed in the meeting packet). 95% of the cost is covered by special education funding. *Jim S. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with SWWC Service Cooperative, that they provide 30 hours of Behavior Analytic Services. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (5-0).*

9. Adjournment: Board members were reminded that our next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2021 at 4:30pm. *Russ K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary