

**Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
April 21, 2022 @ 4:30pm**

The mission of Discovery Public School of Faribault is to meet the current and future needs of middle and high school students by providing a stable and consistent environment in which each student builds necessary social, academic, personal, and career skills for a satisfying and productive life.

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), Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), Cody Hanson, and Sharon Hansen were present. Jim Severson (Vice-Chair) and Kay Hammer attended remotely, via “Google Meet”.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Russ K. asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Cody H. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*
3. **Approval of the March 17, 2022 Minutes:** *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the March 17, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (6-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The financial statement was reviewed and discussed by the board. Sam M. made a motion to accept the [As of] March 31, 2022 Financial Statements, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**
 - 6.1 **Director’s Report:** Cash on Hand: \$ 184,459.19 Enrollment: 48
 - DPS will plan to complete Adopt a Highway trash clean up in May.
 - DPS donated \$350 to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (Pennies for Patients Fundraiser).
 - DPS Graduation will take place at the Paradise Center for the Arts at 5 PM on May 26th. (6 students are expected to walk.)
 - OW is planning a site visit on May 12th and a representative will attend the Board meeting scheduled for May 19th.
 - 6.2 **Community:** No report.
 - 6.3 **Finance:** (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Dan met with Brenda Kes and Travis Berends (Outsourced Controller, School Services). They discussed allocation of ESSER funds, staff salaries, and the effect of lower enrollment on the working budget.

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

MCA Testing has been completed. Students did about as well as usual. Preliminary results show that the number of students meeting or partially meeting [the standard] is up a little in science but down a little in math and reading.

ACT Testing was completed. Four students took the test. They all tried their hardest and stayed focused throughout the test.

The 9th and 12th grade students toured the Faribault campus of South Central College. Many of the freshmen expressed interest in PSEO. In May, the 11th and 12th grade students will be touring the North Mankato campus of SCC and the Minnesota State, Mankato campus.

NWEA testing will begin on Tuesday, May 3, 2022.

Students on track to graduate has been calculated as of the end of Quarter 3. Our goal for this measure is: *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.* Currently we have 83.3% (25/30) of high school students on track to graduate. If this holds, we will exceed our expectations for this goal.

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

Students in our MN Natural History class were studying how the indigenous people in MN tapped maple trees to make syrup. Sharon Hansen helped the students tap the maple trees in front of the school and make a small amount of maple syrup. The class celebrated by making pancakes to use their maple syrup. Some of the students commented that they wanted to try making maple syrup at home. They were surprised that it was so easy to make.

Seniors and freshmen hope to clean the highway again in May for Adopt-a-Highway.

The aquaponics project is doing well. Plants are growing nicely, and the cucumbers are blooming already. Students will need to address pollination to make sure their plants produce fruit, as there are no pollinators inside the school building. They will also be building a trellis for the cucumbers to climb.

Final assessments for our ELP strategies will be completed soon.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: The Board discussed the OW Sounding Board article "What Boards Need to Know About Academics" that was printed in the SB packet.

7.2 DPS School Board Election (April 28, 2022 through May 19, 2022): The Board reviewed the ballot that is printed for the election to fill two open seats on the Board. Russ Kennedy and Kari-Ann Schmidt have both agreed their nominations to serve another term. Kari-Ann pointed out that since her son is graduating during her next term, she won't technically be a parent of a student (but *will* be a community member). Dan will check the by-laws about the required make-up of the Board.

7.3 Teacher Salaries: The Board reviewed the proposed salaries and wages for returning employees. (Science teacher Allie Peterson informed Dan that she will not be returning next school year.) Dan emphasized that we need to keep our staff. Each employee will receive (an approx.) \$1000 increase in their annual pay plus a \$1000 COVID-19 Retention Stipend, to be paid on September 1st (from ESSER funds).

8. Action Items:

8.1 DPS Insurance Renewal: The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed insurance renewal prepared by Grant S. Wilson, representing Heartman Insurance. *Sharon H. made a motion that we renew our Package insurance policy (including Umbrella coverage, comprehensive Auto coverage, and Worker's Compensation) for a total cost of \$12,282. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.2 DPS 2022-2023 School Calendar: The Board reviewed the proposed calendar (printed in the meeting packet). Sharon noted that it basically followed the Faribault (ISD #656) calendar, due to shared bus transportation and food service. The proposed calendar has a built-in cushion of 6 instructional days that might be lost for snow or unforeseen circumstances. *Cody H. made a motion that we adopt the Discovery Public School 2022-2023 School Calendar as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.3 Indigo Education Contract 21-22 SY (SPED Director): Dan reported that he is very satisfied with the work of our special education director, Kori Ryan. The Board reviewed the contract (included in the meeting packet). The cost (maximum \$18,900) is a 5% increase over last year. *Kay H. 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, 2022 and expiring on June 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.4 Strategic Staffing Solutions Contract (Speech Pathologist): The Board reviewed the Service Agreement (printed in the meeting packet). The estimated cost will be \$10,800. *Sam M. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into an agreement with Strategic Staffing Solutions to provide a Licensed Speech Language Pathologist for service to students identified, from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.5 Strategic Staffing Solutions Contract (Occupational Therapist): The Board reviewed the Service Agreement (printed in the meeting packet). The estimated cost will be \$5,112. *Cody H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into an agreement with Strategic Staffing Solutions to provide a Licensed Occupational Therapist for service to students identified, from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.6 Strategic Staffing Solutions Contract (DAPE Teacher): We are required to have a Developmental Adapted Physical Education Teacher for one or more of our Special Education students. The Board reviewed the Service Agreement (printed in the meeting packet). The estimated cost will be \$2,484. *Cody H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into an agreement with Strategic Staffing Solutions to provide a Licensed DAPE Teacher for service to students identified, from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.7 School Psychologist Contract: Dan reported that Gayle Reuvers has been very helpful this year. The Board reviewed the School Psychologist Contract (printed in the meeting packet). The cost is \$80/hour, not to exceed \$35,000 without Board approval. *Cody H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into an agreement with Gayle Reuvers, School Psychologist, to provide services and evaluation as identified by the Child Study and IEP teams, from August 15, 2022 through June 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*

9. Adjournment: The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2022 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