

**Discovery Public School**  
**126 - 8th Street N.W.**  
**Faribault, MN 55021**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 20, 2022 @ 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) and Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio) were present. Jim Severson (Vice-Chair), Sharon Hansen, Cody Hanson, Kay Hammer, Kari-Ann Schmidt, and Steven (Sam) Macklay (Clerk/Treasurer) joined via Google Meet.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Sam M. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (7-0).*
3. **Approval of the December 16, 2021 minutes:** *Sam M. made a motion to approve the December 16, 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. A question was asked about a payment to SOAR Learning, Inc. Dan explained that this was a one time curriculum expense for Special Education. Sam M. made a motion to accept the [As of] December 31, 2021 Financial Statements, as submitted in the school board packet. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (7-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**

**6.1 Director’s Report:** Cash on Hand: Healthy, did not receive report from Bergan KDV before meeting  
Enrollment: 51

\*Enrollment is stable at this time. We have applications from two students, a junior and a senior, who could be starting soon

\*DPS has been in Distance Learning for the past two weeks due to staff and student illness. Case rates are high in this area, and many schools have done this as well. These will count as Instructional Days because of our Provisional Online Provider status.

\*Staff has reported pretty good communication virtually with students, and most are holding some online classes.

**6.2 Community:** (Dan W.) Our co-op with BA is going well. The student is communicating with the coach and participating in practice as expected.

**6.3 Finance:** (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Finance committee did not meet. They will meet in February and go over whether or not we need to update our budget.

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

Since the last board meeting we have only seen students in-person for about a week, so there are few updates. I did meet with nearly all of the high school students to set goals for the school year, including NWEA goals. I went over their past NWEA scores as well as their transcripts and credits. Next month I will give an update on how many students are still on track to graduate on time.

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

No report this month.

## **7. Discussion Items:**

**7.1 School Board Training: None**

**7.2 COVID-19 UPDATE**

We have been in distance learning for the past two weeks. It is beneficial to have our provisional online provider status, as we have used distance learning more than we expected. We will not have to make up these days in the spring; they will be counted as instructional days.

**7.3 Foster Care Transportation Agreement**

We have a student who was placed in foster care in Lonsdale. We are legally required to provide transportation. For now the transportation will be covered by Faribault Transportation. If ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) funds run out, we may have to cover half of the cost. Rice County would cover the other half. We have a signed contract with Rice County to cover this.

## **8. Action Items:**

**8.1 DPS 2022 Mileage Reimbursement Rate:** The 2022 IRS mileage rate is \$0.585 per mile. The current rate DPS pays is \$0.51. *Russ K. made a motion keep the current mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.51. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (7-0).*

**8.2 Strategic Staffing Contract Amendment:** The wrong Strategic Staffing contract was included in the packet. The correct one (for Occupational Therapy not Speech Therapy) was shared by Dan at the meeting. Hours we will require from Strategic Staffing for Occupational Therapy has increased due to special requirements for Sped students. This is a Sped expense and is reimbursable. *Sharon H. made a motion to accept the amended contract with a new maximum of \$5000. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (7-0).*

**9. Adjournment:** Board members were reminded that our next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2025 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: Sharon Hansen***