

**Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
June 16, 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 4:42 p.m. by Russ Kennedy. Russ Kennedy (Chair), S. Sam Macklay (Secretary), Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), Cody Hanson, Sharon Hansen, and Sarah Hammer were present. Jim Severson (Vice-Chair) attended remotely, via “Google Meet” (he joined the meeting at 4:43 p.m.).*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Russ K. asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Sharon H. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*
3. **Approval of the May 19, 2022 Minutes:** *Sam M. made a motion to approve the May 19, 2022 minutes. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The financial statement was reviewed and discussed by the board. There was a question about Check History (p.8): David Blais was issued two checks for substitute teaching; he should have only received one check. This mistake will be corrected. On the Payment Reg by Bank and Check (p.12) a question was asked: Why is \$2217 being sent to Employers Preferred Ins. Co. in addition to the \$10065 paid out to The Hanover Insurance Group? Dan will research the answer and report back to the Board. Finally, on Journal Entry Listing (p.14): Why is Gen Ed being recoded ESSER II? Dan reported that this allows us to use the grant money for “teacher retention”. Sam M. made a motion to accept the [As of] May 31, 2022 Financial Statements, with the questions addressed, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** *Nalani McCutcheon, our liaison from Osprey Wilds, was present at the meeting to observe.*
6. **Reports:**
 - 6.1 **Director’s Report:** Cash on Hand: \$ 134,397.01 Enrollment: 48
 - Graduation Ceremony went well at Paradise Center for the Arts on May 26th.
 - Session 1 of Summer School started on 6/6/22. 3 students are attending Session 1.
 - We’ve had more than several students drop off registration packets for the upcoming school year already. They have not yet been included in the enrollment number.

6.2 Community: No report.

6.3 Finance: (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Dan and Sharon H. met with Travis Berends and Brenda Kes to discuss how best to utilize the ESSER III funds (Federal grant money available until the end of 2024). They will bring suggestions to the Board at the July meeting.

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

We put together some of our academic results this month, including our Post-Secondary Readiness goals and our Writing Proficiency goal.

Post-Secondary Readiness

Measure 9.2 [CCR] – 6 Points: From FY19 to FY21, the aggregate percentage of 12th graders who score at least 70 out of 100 on the school-developed rubric for their Life Plan project will be at least 70%.

Results: 5 out of 6 students (83%) scored 70% or higher

Measure 9.3 [CCR] – 6 Points: From FY19 to FY21, the aggregate percentage of 12th graders who earn a Job Skills Certificate will be at least 80%.

Results: 6 out of 6 students (100%) completed the job skills course successfully. (We didn't factor in NCs in this because we didn't enforce them this year due to COVID-19, but every senior graduated with full credit each quarter.)

Writing Proficiency

Measure 8.1 [CCR] – 6 Points: From FY19 to FY21, the aggregate percentage of students in grades 6-12 who achieve a score of at least 3.0 on a five-paragraph essay as measured by the MCA GRAD Writing Rubric will be at least 80%.

Results: Out of 41 students, 38 (92.7%) scored at least a 3.0 on their five-paragraph essay using the MCA GRAD Writing Rubric.

Reading Growth

Goal: From FY20 to FY21, the aggregate percentage of students in grades 6-12 who meet their fall to spring NWEA RIT expected growth target as measured by the NWEA MAP Reading assessment will be at least 50%.

Results: 48.8% of students (20/41) met their expected growth target. Although our goal was not met, 104.0% of our projected growth was met, meaning the students who met their goal exceeded, and many students who did not meet their goal still showed growth.

Math Growth

Goal: From FY19 to FY21, the aggregate percentage of students in grades 6-12 who meet their fall to spring NWEA RIT expected growth target as measured by the NWEA MAP Math assessment will be at least 50%.

Results: 57.5% of students (23/40) met their expected growth target. In addition, 105.9% of projected growth was met.

Science Growth

Goal: From FY19 to FY21, the aggregate percentage of students in grades 6-12 who meet their fall to spring NWEA RIT expected growth target as measured by the NWEA MAP Science assessment will be at least 50%.

Results: 60.0% of students in 6th -10th grade (18/30) met their expected growth target, and 131.5% of projected growth was met. NWEA does not project goals for students in 11th and 12th grade. When calculated with an expected growth of 2 RIT points for those students, 55.0% of students (22/40) met their expected growth.

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

We met all of our Environmental Literacy goals this year. This summary of our goals and results is gleaned from our Environmental Education Survey, which will be submitted to our authorizer.

Indicator Area 1: Awareness

Goal: Awareness of the relationship between the environment and human life. Seventy-five percent of students will earn an average score of 20 or greater on a 25 point rubric that reflects their awareness of the topics studied for their submission to a newsletter.

Results: Out of 14 students in 11th and 12th grade who participated in the Environmental Science Writing class, 12 (85.7%) earned an average score of 20 or greater on a 25 point rubric.

Indicator Area 2: Knowledge

Goal: Knowledge of human and natural systems and processes. Middle school students will maintain a successful composting program for our food waste from school lunch. Students will follow a rotating schedule of documenting food waste and maintaining the compost pile, so that 100% of middle school students participate. Seventy five percent of middle school students will complete a pretest and posttest to measure learning before and after the unit. The mean score from pretest to posttest will increase by at least 10%.

Results: 100% of middle school students (14 students) participated in the composting program in the fall. Of our 14 middle school students, 13 completed the composting pretest and posttest. The mean score increased from 5.57 to 7.62, a 36.7% increase.

Indicator Area 3: Attitudes

Goal: An attitude of appreciation and concern for the environment. All students who participate in trash cleanup will complete a short survey to measure the impact this task had on their attitude, appreciation, and concern for the environment. The average response on a scale of 1 to 5 will be greater than 3.

Results: For the 32 students surveyed, the average response on a scale of 1 to 5 was 3.47.

Indicator Area 4: Skills

Goal: Increased problem solving and critical thinking skills in relation to the environment and human life. Seventy five percent of students in English (11th-12th grade) will complete an oratory essay and present it in front of the class or individually to the teacher. Seventy percent will earn at least 70 on a 100 point rubric. All students will take a survey at the beginning and the end of the year to assess their capacity to perceive and interpret the health of the environmental and social systems in their local community. Overall capacity will improve by 10% from fall to spring, based on the average responses on the survey.

Results: Out of 15 students, 11 earned a score of at least 70/100 on an oratory essay on a topic of their choice. Overall capacity of students who took the survey (35 student in the fall, 23 students in the spring) increased by 25.3%, from an average score of 3.71 to an average score of 4.65.

Indicator Area 5: Action

Goal: The capacity, to work individually and collectively toward sustaining a healthy natural environment. Students will learn about how different cultures around the world interact with food, with an emphasis on our local community. They will develop an action plan to improve the environment in their community that will be graded on a rubric. Seventy percent of the students who complete the written action plan will earn a score of 70% or greater.

Results: 82% of students scored 70% or greater on their written action plan.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: None

8. Action Items:

8.1 School Board Meeting Dates 2021-2022: *Cody H. made a motion that we adopt the School Board Meeting Dates for the 2022-2023 School Year, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.2 Chance to Grow Contract 2022-2023 SY (3rd Party Billing): IEP 3rd party billing is required by Special Education rules. The board reviewed and discussed the contract (printed in the meeting packet). *Sharon H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with A Chance To Grow, Inc., to provide third party reimbursement services to eligible students, from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.3 DPS Capital Assets and Capitalization Policy: Our current policy requires capitalization of any asset that cost more than \$500. Brenda Kes reported that this is causing a paperwork burden and recommended that we raise the limit to \$2500. *Sam M. made a motion to revise the Capital Assets Capitalization Policy to require capitalization of any expenditure ... with an initial cost of more than \$500 \$2500... to be a capitalized asset. The motion was seconded by Sarah H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.4 Pam Hanson (English Teacher): The Board reviewed the contract (printed in the meeting packet), including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support. *Sharon H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Pam Hanson to perform the service of English Teacher and Graduation Co-Coordinator, for the school year 2022 to 2023. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.5 Ally Luthe (Social Studies Teacher): The Board reviewed the contract (printed in the meeting packet), including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support. *Sam M. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Alexandra Luthe to perform the service of Social Studies Teacher and Graduation Co-Coordinator, for the school year 2022 to 2023. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.6 Sharon Hansen (Math Teacher): The Board reviewed the contract (printed in the meeting packet), including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support. *Sam M. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Sharon Hansen to perform the services of Math Teacher, Instructional Leader, Title One Coordinator, Testing Coordinator, 504 Coordinator, Environmental Education Coordinator, and IT Coordinator for the school year 2022 to 2023. The motion was seconded by Sarah H. The motion carried (5-0). Sharon H. abstained.*

8.7 Cody Hanson (Health/ PE/ Art Teacher): The Board reviewed the contract (printed in the meeting packet), including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support. *Sharon H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Cody Hanson to perform the services of Physical Education Teacher, Health Teacher, Art Teacher, Sports Club Coordinator, and Lunch Server for the school year 2022 to 2023. The motion was seconded by Sarah H. The motion carried (5-0). Cody H. abstained.*

8.8 Maria Palmer (Special Education Teacher): The Board reviewed the contract (printed in the meeting packet), including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support. *Cody H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Maria Palmer to perform the service of Special Education Teacher for the school year 2022 to 2023. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.9 Michele Horak (Special Education Teacher): The Board reviewed the contract (printed in the meeting packet), including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support. *Sarah H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Maria Palmer to perform the service of Special Education Teacher for the school year 2022 to 2023. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.10 Garret Bitker (Science Teacher): The Board reviewed the contract (printed in the meeting packet). *Cody H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Garret Bitker to perform the service of Science Teacher for the school year 2022 to 2023. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.11 Office Manager's Hourly Wage: The Board and the Finance Committee previously (in the last two months) discussed and agreed upon a rate increase for our office manager, including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support. *Sharon H. made a motion that the hourly wage of the Office Manager, Karen Natole, be increased to \$25.50/hour for the 2022 to 2023 school year. The motion was seconded by Sarah H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.12 Paraprofessionals' Hourly Wages: The Board and the Finance Committee previously (in the last two months) discussed and agreed upon rate increases for our paraprofessionals, including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support for each returning employee. *Sharon H. made a motion that we pay Yvonne Ackmann \$18.75/hour, Sonja Folres \$20.75 an hour, and Madison VanErp \$17.50/hour, for the 2022 to 2023 school year. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.13 DPS Director Evaluation: Dan left the room and the Board completed the annual Executive Director Evaluation for the 2021- 2022 school year. The Board agreed that Dan "meets expectations" in all areas of the evaluation. We are also admire him for is great leadership of the school and his dedication to education. *Sam M. made a motion that we submit the just-completed evaluation to our authorizer. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.12 Dan Weisser (Executive Director): The Board reviewed the contract (printed in the meeting packet), including a \$1000 stipend for COVID-19 Mitigation Support. *Sharon H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with Dan Weisser to perform the services of Executive Director, EEL Coordinator, and Title One Director for the school year 2022 to 2023. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

9. Adjournment: The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2022 at 4:30pm. *Russ K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim S. The motion carried (6-0).*

Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary