

**Discovery Public School**  
**126 - 8th Street N.W.**  
**Faribault, MN 55021**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**October 13, 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 Jim Severson. Jim Severson (Vice-Chair), S. Sam Macklay (Secretary), Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), Cody Hanson, and Sharon Hansen were present. Kari-Ann Schmidt attended remotely, via “Google Meet”.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Jim S. asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Sam M. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*
3. **Approval of the September 15, 2022 Minutes:** *Sam M. made a motion to approve the September 15, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (5-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statements:** *The Board reviewed and discussed the financial statement. Dan reported that the food service expenditures are one month behind in the report (due to late billing). Cody H. made a motion to accept the [As of] September 30, 2022 Financial Statements, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (5-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**
  - 6.1 **Director’s Report:** Cash on Hand: ~\$176,786 Enrollment: 49
    - End of Qtr. 1 is 11/3/22.
    - DPS students completed Adopt a Highway on TH 9/22 with 9th and 12th grade students (Freshmen Seminar/Career Readiness). The trash pick-up went very well. Faribault Transportation provided a bus.
    - Staff and students are planning a Halloween Party, after lunch, on Friday Oct. 28. The upperclassmen are making carnival games for the party.
    - New Science Teacher has started a new Engineering Club. Students seem interested. DPS registered to enter a Super-mileage Car in a Contest in May, in Brainerd. The goal is to build the most efficient vehicle possible.
  - 6.2 **Community:** None.
  - 6.3 **Finance:** (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Dan and Russ will be meeting with Travis Berends to discuss the possible need for budget revision.

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

Most students have completed their fall NWEA testing. It is expected that students' scores may decrease in the fall because they have been out of school for the summer. We are seeing between 30% and 50% of students (depending on the test) who increased their score from their highest score over the past two years (if they were with us during that time). We like to see them improving in the fall also, and these numbers are slightly higher than usual, which means they are retaining some of what they learned last year, and/or getting back on track quickly in the fall.

Attendance is something we are watching closely and working on. MDE has not reported consistent attendance since the 2018-19 school year due to Covid-19, so they have revised their guidance for the Annual Report. After looking at our traditional attendance rates for the past few years, we felt we should report on our year-to-date attendance rate. Our YTD attendance rate is 86.1% which is an improvement from last year.

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

Garret Bitker, our new science teacher, has agreed to be a part of the EE Committee.

Ecology students are designing a stream experiment and testing local stream water quality. Ecology student collection project is due 10/28. Biology students are studying cells and using microscopes to look at various organisms. We are choosing which fish to raise this month. We also signed up for the "Show Us Your Mussels" challenge through MN Zoo. If we win this challenge, students earn a free trip to the MN Zoo along with a chance to see behind the scenes of the mussel exhibit.

**ELP Update:** Eleventh and twelfth graders are working on climate research, which is due Nov 3rd. This research will become part of their evaluation for Indicator 5: Action. They will use their research to write to at least two government officials (one local and one state). The letters/emails will be graded on a 100 point rubric. Seventy percent of the students who complete the written action plan will earn a score of 70% or greater.

The fall student survey results have been recorded. This is part of our evaluation of Indicator 4: Skills. The evaluation strategy that this survey is used to measure is: 4.1 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. The survey will include questions on issues that they perceive in the environment, things that impact the environment, ways to determine whether an environmental area has been impacted, and things the student can do to take action. Overall capacity will improve by 10% from fall to spring, based on the average responses on the survey.

Our ELP has not yet been finalized by Osprey Wilds.

### **7. Discussion Items:**

**7.1 School Board Training:** None.

**7.2 Still Using Remote SPED Teacher (Tele-Teachers):** Dan reported that the remote teaching is going okay, but it's not ideal. Since a para or the classroom teacher is required to monitor the student interaction with Christy Rappoport, this is using lots of instructional resources. Dan has posted the position on Ed Post, but has not received any responses.

## **8. Action Items:**

**8.1 2021-2022 Annual Report:** The Board reviewed and discussed the annual report prepared for the Osprey Wilds Environmental Center. Two revisions were needed. On page 10, the Consistent Attendance Rates table needs to be replaced by a Student Attendance Rates table because MDE has not calculated Consistent Attendance since the 2018-2019 school year. On page 40, the Board Membership information about Sarah Hammer needs to be corrected. Sarah was appointed by the Board in June of 2022 to fill the vacancy left by Kay Hammer's resignation. She will need to be elected to a new term in May of 2023. *Sam M. made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 Annual Report & WBWF Summary, with the revisions noted above, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

**9. Adjournment:** The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2022 at 4:30pm. *Sharon H. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (5-0).*

*Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary*