

Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
September 15, 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, Sarah Hammer and Jim Severson were present. Sharon Hansen attended remotely, via “Google Meet”.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Russ K. asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Jim S. made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*
3. **Approval of the August 18, 2022 Minutes:** *Sarah H. made a motion to approve the August 18, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0), Sam M. abstained.*
4. **Monthly Financial Statements:** *The Board reviewed and discussed the financial statement. Sam M. made a motion to accept the [As of] August 31, 2022 Financial Statements, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Sarah H. The motion carried (6-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** *None.*
6. **Reports:**

6.1 Director’s Report: Cash on Hand: \$ 140,753.76 Enrollment: 49

- 1st Day of School was Tuesday 8/30/22.
- DPS will complete Adopt a Highway on Thursday 9/22 with 9th and 12th grade students (Freshmen Seminar/Career Readiness). They will travel by school bus.
- 1st couple weeks have gone well.

6.2 Community: The Board discussed how standardized test scores are down in all of the schools, due to COVID-19 disruption of in-person attendance. This is especially unfortunate for our students, many of whom come here for more student-teacher contact.

6.3 Finance: (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Since we did not have enough Free and Reduced School Lunch applicants last year, we have lost our Title I grant. We will use ESSER III funds to continue the intervention classes. Free and Reduced School Lunch application numbers are improving, this year. Dan and Sharon are investigating many grant applications. Sarah said she would help writing the actual applications.

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

MCA Results have been released by MDE. The measures listed below are part of our updated contract and will be compared to Alternative schools in MN.

Indicator 3: Reading Growth

Measure 3.3 [CCR] – 1 Point: In aggregate, from FY22-FY23, the overall percentage of students whose achievement level on the statewide assessments for reading (as measured by North Star Academic Progress) improved on statewide assessments is equal to or greater than the state percentage.

Results: One out of 10 students (10%) at DPS improved their achievement level on statewide assessments. The state percentage is 63.22%.

Measure 3.4 [CCR] – 2 Points: In aggregate, from FY22-FY23, the overall percentage of students whose achievement level decreased or stayed "does not meet standards" on statewide assessments for reading (as measured by North Star Academic Progress) is equal to or less than the state.

Results: Seven out of 10 students (70%) at DPS decreased or stayed "does not meet standards" on statewide reading assessments.

Indicator 4: Math Growth

Measure 4.3 [CCR] – 1 Point: In aggregate, from FY22-FY23, the overall percentage of students whose achievement level decreased or stayed "does not meet standards" on statewide assessments for math (as measured by North Star Academic Progress) is equal to or less than the state.

Results: One out of 10 students (10%) at DPS improved their achievement level on statewide assessments. The state percentage is 60.01%.

Measure 4.4 [CCR] – 2 Points: In aggregate, from FY22-FY23, the overall percentage of students whose achievement level decreased or stayed "does not meet standards" on statewide assessments for math (as measured by North Star Academic Progress) is equal to or less than the state.

Results: Nine out of 10 students (90%) at DPS decreased or stayed "does not meet standards" on statewide math assessments.

Indicator 5: Reading Proficiency

Measure 5.3 [CCR] – 1 Point: From FY21 to FY23, the school's aggregate proficiency index score for students in grades 6-8 & 10 will be greater than the aggregate average of alternative schools in Minnesota for the same grades.

Results: Our proficiency index for statewide reading assessments for FY22 was 27.3 with an aggregate score of 27.1 for FY21 and FY22.

Measure 5.6 [AGC] – 1 Point: From FY21 to FY23, the school's aggregate proficiency index score for students in the Free/Reduced Priced Lunch subgroup will be greater than that of alternative schools in Minnesota for the same subgroup and the same grades (6-8 & 10).

Results: Our proficiency index on statewide reading assessments for students in the Free/Reduced Priced Lunch subgroup was 23.1 with an aggregate of 23.5 over FY21 and FY22.

Measure 5.9[AGC] – 1 Point: From FY21 to FY23, the school's aggregate proficiency index score for students in the Special Education subgroup will be greater than that of alternative schools for the same subgroup and the same grades (6-8 & 10).

Results: Our proficiency index on statewide reading assessments for students in the Special Education subgroup was 10.0 with an aggregate score of 13.0 over FY21 and FY22.

Indicator 6: Math Proficiency

Measure 6.3 [CCR] – 1 Point: From FY21 to FY23, the school's aggregate proficiency index score for students in grades 6-8 & 10 will be greater than the aggregate average of alternative schools in Minnesota for the same grades.

Results: Our proficiency index for statewide math assessments for FY22 was 7.1 with an aggregate score of 8.0 for FY21 and FY22.

Measure 6.6 [AGC] – 1 Point: From FY21 to FY23, the school's aggregate proficiency index score for students in the Free/Reduced Priced Lunch subgroup will be greater than that of alternative schools in Minnesota for the same subgroup and the same grades (6-8 & 11).

Results: Our proficiency index on statewide math assessments for students in the Free/Reduced Priced Lunch subgroup was 9.4 with an aggregate of 8.3 over FY21 and FY22. (*note this is higher than for all students - meaning our strategies for closing the academic gap are working*)

Measure 6.9[AGC] – 1 Point: From FY21 to FY23, the school's aggregate proficiency index score for students in the Special Education subgroup will be greater than that of alternative schools for the same subgroup and the same grades (6-8 & 11).

Results: Our proficiency index on statewide math assessments for students in the Special Education subgroup was 0.0 with an aggregate score of 0.0 over FY21 and FY22.

Indicator 7: Science Proficiency

Measure 7.3 [CCR] – 1 Point: From FY21 to FY23, the school's aggregate proficiency index score for students in grades 6-8 & HS will be greater than the aggregate average of alternative schools in Minnesota for the same grades.

Results: Our proficiency index for statewide science assessments for FY22 was 33.3 with an aggregate score of 25.0 for FY21 and FY22.

Indicator 9: Post-secondary Readiness

Measure 9.1 [GRAD] – 3 Points: From FY19 to FY23, the aggregate 6-year graduation rate will be at least 67.0%.

Results: Our 6-year graduation rate for FY21 was 46.2% with an aggregate over FY19-FY21 of 59.5%. Our graduation rate dropped over the past few years as a result of many older students dropping out of school during the pandemic.

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

Each student is completing a nature collection project, to increase their knowledge of nature around them. Eleventh and twelfth graders are researching climate change and will be writing an essay in English class and taking political action in government class as part of our Environmental Literacy Plan. Students will also be raising fish in biology class. Middle school is exploring a variety of topics this year including earth science and alternative energy sources.

Dan reported that our new science teacher, Garrett Bitker, is very popular with the students. He is emphasizing “hands on learning”. Some examples are nature collections, raising fish, and building a super-high-mileage-car. He is also supervising an after-school Engineering Club.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: Board members completed the online training titled: Employment Policies and Practices Courses: Respond to Data Requests. The Board members discussed and asked questions about the topic.

7.2 Started a new Remote SPED Teacher (Tele-Teachers): Dan reported that the new remote teacher (Kristi Rappapor) seems to be working out well. Since a para or the classroom teacher is required to monitor the student interaction with Kristi, this is using lots of instructional resources.

7.3 FY22 Formative Environmental Education Performance Evaluation from Osprey Wilds Environmental Learning Center: The Board reviewed and discussed the evaluation (printed in the meeting packet). Our rating was “Meets the Standard” in all five indicator areas. Sharon found a mistake in the data for Indicator 5: Action, and we might receive an “Exceeds the Standard” rating after correction.

8. Action Items:

8.1 Charter School Assurances 2022-2023: This document, assuring that our charter school is in compliance with Minnesota Statutes is submitted annually to MDE. *Sam M. made a motion to certify our 2022-23 Annual Charter School Assurances, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.2 DPS 2022-2023 School Calendar Revision: When the calendar was drafted, we guessed on the date of the FHS Homecoming. We like to have a staff development day on the Homecoming date because many of our students choose to attend the festivities (instead of school). *Jim S. made a motion to change our September staff development day from the 23rd to the 30th. The motion was seconded by Sarah H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.3 DPS 2022-2023 Testing Calendar: MDE and our authorizer require that we publish our proposed MCA and NWEA testing dates. *Cody H. made a motion to approve the testing calendar dates, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (6-0).*

9. Adjournment: The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for October 13, 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