

Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
May 16, 2024 @ 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.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** *The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Russ Kennedy. Russ Kennedy (Chair), Jim Severson (Vice-Chair), Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), Cody Hanson, Sharon Hansen and Ally Luthe were present. S. Sam Macklay (Secretary) arrived at 4:33pm.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Russ K. asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Jim S. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*
3. **Approval of the April 18, 2024 Minutes:** *Jim S. made a motion to approve the April 18, 2024 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. Topics included Food Service Fund Revenue spreadsheet errors, and the billing cycles for Region V Computer Services and Tele-Teachers. Ally L. made a motion to accept the [As of] April 30, 2024 Financial Report, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (6-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**
 - 6.1 **Director's Report:** Cash Balance: \$151,033 Enrollment: 51
 - DPS took a Field Trip to Whitewater State Park to release the Trout that we raised. Trip went well, lots of hiking, had a great time.
 - MCA and NWEA Testing have been completed.
 - DPS plans to do Adopt a Highway cleanup on Friday May 17 with the 9th and 12th grade students (Freshmen Seminar/Career Readiness).
 - Graduation will take place at the Paradise Theater on TH May 30th at 5 PM. (5 likely graduates, with Summer School for a few.)
 - Faribault Heritage Celebration will take place June 13-15. Parade will take place on June 15 at 6:15 starting at the Fair Grounds.
 - Yearbooks have been sent to the printer.
 - 6.2 **Community:** No Report.
 - 6.3 **Finance:** (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Our budget for the next school year has been approved. We are finalizing some grant applications. The food service fund will end the year with a deficit.

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

The ACT Test was administered on April 23, 2024. We had 8 students take the test. They have received their results. I usually receive results at the same time, but I have not yet seen those.

We have completed NWEA Testing. Scores in reading are down significantly this year, even though it appeared that students were trying as hard as they usually would.

Our contractual goal for Reading Growth and Progress (Measure 3.3 [CCR]) is: From FY24 to FY28, 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%. This year only 22.22% of students (8/36) met their expected growth target in reading.

Our contractual goal for Math Growth and Progress (Measure 4.3 [CCR]) is: From FY24 to FY28, 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%. This year 56.76% of students (21/37) met their expected growth target in math.

Our contractual goal for Science Proficiency (and Growth) (Measure 7.2 [CCR]) is: From FY24 to FY28, 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%. This year 48.65% of students (18/37) met their expected growth target in science.

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

Our trip to Whitewater State Park to release our rainbow trout for the Trout in the Classroom program was successful. Out of 300 eggs that we hatched in January, we were able to release 230 trout into Trout River at the park.

Environmental Literacy Plan Progress

Indicator 2: Knowledge

Our evaluation method for this indicator is: 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: 92.9% of students (13/14) completed both pretest and posttest. The mean score from pretest to posttest increased by 12.6% (6.29 to 7.09).

Indicator 3: Attitudes

Our evaluation method for this indicator is: 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: The average response on a scale of 1 to 5 was 3.85.

Indicator 4: Skills

Our evaluation method for this indicator is: Seventy five percent of students in English (11th-12th grade) will complete an 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.

Results: 100% of students enrolled in the English 11-12 class during the quarter the essay was assigned, completed the essay. 86.7% (13/15) scored 70% or greater.

Our second evaluation method for this indicator is: 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.

Results: We did not meet this target. We had 41 responses to our fall survey and 38 responses in the spring. The mean score in the fall was 4.95, and the mean spring score was 5.03, for an increase in overall capacity of 1.62%. We plan to evaluate this strategy for next year and make changes to the survey to better reflect what is currently being taught.

Indicator 5: Action

Our evaluation method for this indicator is: Students in Social Studies (11th-12th grade) will take action by writing 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.

Results: 93.7% of the 11th-12th grade students (15/16) completed the action plan. Of those who completed it, 100% (15/15) earned a score of 70% or greater.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: None.

7.2 DPS/Osprey Wilds Renewal: All of the documentation for renewal was submitted to OW on May 15. They replied with a few last-minute revisions. We expect to approve the new contract at the June meeting.

7.3 Staff Salaries: Dan presented a spreadsheet of proposed pay increases for the staff. These seem acceptable to the employees and have been budgeted for.

7.5 DPS Custodian: Our former custodian resigned. Dan found a replacement, on short notice. He reported that she is keeping the restrooms very clean but she is very expensive. He will post the job, after graduation, and try to find someone we can afford.

8. Action Items:

8.1 Dan Weisser Summer School Teacher Agreement (Session 1): The Board reviewed the agreement (printed in the meeting packet). *Jim S. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into an agreement with Dan Weisser to teach Session One of summer school in the year 2024, contingent on enrollment of students. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.2 Sharon Hansen Summer School Teacher Agreement (Session 2): The Board reviewed the agreement (printed in the meeting packet). *Jim S. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into an agreement with Sharon Hansen to teach Session Two of summer school in the year 2024, contingent on enrollment of students. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0). Sharon H. abstained.*

8.3 Adopt a Highway Renewal: Dan and the teachers feel this is a worthy activity for our students and our adopted highway is low-traffic, making it relatively safe. *Sam M made a motion that we renew our Adopt a Highway Agreement (printed in the meeting packet) with MnDOT. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.4 MSHSL Agreement: Our sports co-op (boys' football and basketball) with Bethlehem Academy has been beneficial to both schools. *Jim S. made a motion to renew our membership with the Minnesota State High School League for the 2024-2025 school year. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.5 2024-2025 School Board Meeting Dates: *Cody H. made a motion to approve the School Board Meeting Dates as printed in the packet, but changing the start time of the Annual Meeting to 5:30pm. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.6 SY 24-25 Indigo Education Special Education Director Agreement: Dan reported that he is very satisfied with the work of our special education director, Kori Ryan. The Board reviewed the agreement (included in the meeting packet). The cost (\$21,150) reflects a 7% increase in the annual fee. *Jim S. 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, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.7 Physical/Health/Disabilities Teacher Agreement: The Board reviewed the Independent Consultation Agreement (printed in the meeting packet). *Sharon H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into an agreement with Sally Poesch to provide physical/health disabilities teacher services, as described in the agreement, for the 2024-2025 school year. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.8 Strategic Staffing Solutions Service Agreement (Speech Pathologist): The Board reviewed the Service Agreement (printed in the meeting packet). The estimated cost will be \$11,232 (up from \$10,800 last year). *Ally L. 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, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.9 DPS Articles of Incorporation: Our authorizer recommended an amendment to our Articles of Incorporation. Dan and Sharon will be responsible for filing the change with the Secretary of State and plan a legal review of the Articles, over the summer. *Sam M. made a motion to amend Article VIII, PERSONAL LIABILITY of the ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF DISCOVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL OF FARIBAULT. The words: “The Corporation shall not be obligated to indemnify a board member who has violated Minn. Stat. 124E.07 sub. 3(b).” will be added to the end of Article VIII. The motion was seconded by Jim S. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.10 DPS Bylaws: Our authorizer recommended an amendment to our bylaws. *Sharon H. made a motion that we amend Article I, PURPOSE of the BYLAWS OF DISCOVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL OF FARIBAULT by replacing “...Minnesota Statutes, section ~~124D.10~~ (the “Act”)...” with “...section 124E (the “Act”)...” The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.11 Revised “Exhibit F”: Our authorizer recommended that we revise Exhibit F: Statutory Purposes (printed in the meeting packet), of our renewal application. We are “unchecking” two of the additional purpose(s). *Sharon H. made a motion to accept the revisions to Exhibit F. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.12 DPS School Board Elections (Sharon, Jim, Sam): Ally L. and Cody H. counted the votes and verified the ballots submitted. Sharon Hansen, Jim Severson, and S. Sam Macklay were all reelected as directors of the board of Discovery Public School. All three agreed to serve on the Board for a three-year term and submit to a background check. *Russ K. made a motion that we certify the results of the School Board Election. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

9. Adjournment: The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 24th, 2024 at 4:30pm. *Jim S. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Russ K. The motion carried (6-0).*
Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary