

Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
September 19, 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), Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), Cody Hanson, Sharon Hansen, Ally Luthe and S. Sam Macklay (Secretary) were present.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Russ K. asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Sam M. made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of items 7.3, Director Evaluation and 8.5, Whistleblower Policy. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*
3. **Approval of the August 15, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes:** *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the August 15, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (4-0), Sam M. abstained.*
4. **Monthly Financial Statements:** *The August Financial Statements were reviewed and discussed by the board. Sam M. made a motion to accept the [As of] August 31, 2023 Financial Statements, as submitted in the school board packet. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** None.
6. **Reports:**

6.1 Director's Report: Cash Balance: \$144,405 Enrollment: 47

- Dan is communicating with Rod Haenke about the possibility of coordinating some School Board Training to meet new requirements for the Board and Ex Officio moving forward.
- 1st Day of School was Monday August 26th! Off to a good start.
- Adopt a Highway Cleanup will take place on Friday 9/20 (9th and 12th grade students).
- ABDO sent a Draft of the Audit to Dan and Travis. It has been reviewed and looks good. ABDO will likely present the Final Audit at the October Board Meeting.

6.2 Community: Dan (assistant football coach at BA) reported that the season is off to a good start and our students on the team are having fun.

6.3 Finance: (Russ K., Jim S., Dan W.) Dan met with Travis to review the audit draft. We do need to enroll four more students to match our budget model.

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

Mission Related Goal

Measure 1.1 [CCR]: From FY24 to FY28, the aggregate percentage of students in grades 9-12 who will be on-track to graduate will be equal to or greater than 70%.

Results: This year we have 71.4% (25/35) students on track to graduate.

Reading Growth

Measure 3.3 [CCR]: 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%.

Results: 22.22% (8/36) of students met their growth targets on the NWEA Reading Assessment.

Math Growth

Measure 4.3 [CCR]: 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%.

Results: 56.76% (21/37) of students met their growth targets on the NWEA Math assessment.

Reading Proficiency

Measure 5.1 [CCR]: From FY24 to FY28, 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: 8% of our students were proficient on the MCA Reading Assessment. For comparison, the Faribault ALC has 10.8% proficient in reading. We are compared to a statewide average; the ALC info is just included for context.

Math Proficiency

Measure 6.1 [CCR]: From FY24 to FY28, 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: 0% of our students were proficient on the MCA Math Assessment. For comparison, the Faribault ALC has 2.9% proficient in reading (although historically they also have 0%). We are compared to an average; the ALC info is just included for context.

Science Proficiency and Growth

Measure 7.1 [CCR]: From FY24 to FY28, 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: 9.1% of our students were proficient on the MCA Science Assessment. For comparison, the Faribault ALC has 0% proficient in science. We are compared to a statewide average; the ALC info is just included for context.

Measure 7.2 [CCR]: 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%.

Results: 48.65% (18/37) of students met their growth targets on the NWEA Science Assessment.

Proficiency in Other Areas (Writing Proficiency)

Measure 8.1 [CCR]: From FY24 to FY28, 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: 88.6% (39/44) of students achieved a score of at least 3 on a 5 paragraph essay.

Post-Secondary Readiness

Measure 9.1 [GRAD]: From FY24 to FY28, the aggregate 6-year graduation rate will be at least 67.0%.

Results: 36.4% (4/11) of students graduated within 6 years of beginning 9th grade. This is the group of students who were expected to graduate in 2021, right after COVID. Many of them ended up dropping out. Graduation rates should be improving going forward.

Measure 9.2 [CCR]: From FY24 to FY28, 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: On the Life Plan project, 100% (5/5) of students earned at least a 70 out of 100.

Measure 9.3 [CCR]: From FY24 to FY28, the aggregate percentage of 12th graders who earn a Job Skills Certificate will be at least 80%.

Results: 100% (5/5) of students earned a Job Skills Certificate.

Engagement

Measure 10.1: From FY24-28, the average of the school's annual consistent attendance rates is equal to or greater than that of the aggregate of alternative schools in the state.

Results: Our consistent attendance rate was 37.16. According to the MN Report Card, consistent attendance for the Faribault ALC was 3%. We are compared to an average of ALCs statewide; the Faribault ALC info is just included for context.

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

Students in 9th grade science and middle school phy-ed have been fishing every Friday. They are learning about the local ecosystems and what kinds of fish can be found in the Straight River.

Our Environmental Literacy Plan has been submitted and approved for 2024-25.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: OW Sounding Board article: “Financial Oversight”. The Board members reviewed and discussed the article printed in the meeting packet.

7.2 Advertising and Enrollment Update: The Facebook ads resulted in some inquires. We will run them again at the end of the first quarter. About half of the yard signs have been distributed (to people who are interested in promoting the school). Enrollment is currently about 8% below our budgeted goal.

7.3 Director Evaluation: Dan described the 2-day Board Training, provided (remotely) by OW, which he and Ally L. participated in.

8. Action Items:

8.1 DPS 2024-2025 Board Assurances: MDE requires charter schools to submit signed assurances regarding certain operations and policies at the school. The Board reviewed the document (printed in the meeting packet). *Sharon H. made a motion to certify and submit the 2024-2025 Annual Charter School Assurances. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.2 General Fund Transfer for Food Service: Per MN statute, the food service fund must end the fiscal year with a zero balance. Travis Berends requested the Board approve a fund transfer to cover the deficit. *Sam M. made a motion to approve the transfer of \$4,021.81 from the General Fund to FD 02 (food service). The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.3 Data Subject Rights and Access Policy: The Board reviewed the current policy (printed in the meeting packet). *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the current DPS Data Subject Rights and Access Policy, without changes. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.4 Data Practices Policy and Procedures: The Board reviewed the current policy (printed in the meeting packet). *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the current DPS Data Practices Policy and Procedures, without changes. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.5 Whistleblower Policy: The Board reviewed the current policy (printed in the meeting packet). *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the current DPS Whistleblower Policy, without changes. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

9. Adjournment: The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 4:30pm. *Russ K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary