

Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
May 15, 2025 @ 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 (Vice Chair), S. Sam Macklay (Secretary), and Ally Luthe were present.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Russ K. asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Cody H. made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (5-0).*
3. **Approval of the April 17, 2025 Minutes:** *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the April 17, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (5-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The Board reviewed and discussed the financial report. Sharon H. made a motion to accept the [As of] April 30, 2025 Financial Report, 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 Balance: \$109,419 Enrollment: 54

- DPS students took a field trip to River Bend Nature Center on 4/22. The trip went well, students planted trees and did some nature hikes along with other activities.
- DPS completed their trout release for Trout in the Classroom on 4/25 at Whitewater Regional Park. Students participated in other outdoor activities while there, the trip went well.
- DPS took an afternoon field trip to the Community Center on 5/9 to use the gym and pool. The trip was funded by the student council, and the money they earned from their fundraiser at Fareway Foods.
- Cannon River Stem School is officially set to close at the end of this school year. They reached out about supplies and furniture, Dan mentioned that DPS will be very interested in looking at those items. DPS has also had several families reach out about the possibility of their students attending DPS next year. Dan has started a list, and has been giving tours.
- DPS Graduation will take place on May 29, 2025 at the Paradise Center for the Arts. Ceremony will be at 5 PM. All Board Members are encouraged to attend if available. DPS will be graduating 8 students.

6.2 Community: Dan is considering assisting the football coaching staff at Bethlehem Academy. Several of our students intend to play on the team.

6.3 Finance: (Russ K., Dan W.) We will end the year with an ADM of 50. This increase (from 47) will improve our projected cumulative fund balance. The cash on hand was down this month because the IDES money (~\$30,000) which is usually deposited electronically, was sent as a paper check that Dan just deposited.

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

- Students have mostly completed NWEA testing. Results are looking very positive for both math and reading. In addition, six of our students who receive special education services showed double digit growth in math. Expected growth for these students ranged from 2 to 8 points, and actual growth was as high as 35 points! Science scores appear to be a little low this year, with fewer than 50% meeting their target growth.
- Student score reports from the ACT test have come back. Students performed well this year. I can't share data due to privacy, but overall, scores for this group are better than past groups that have taken the ACT.
- We have been looking at student credits to prepare for summer school and fall course offerings. We currently have about 5-7 students interested in summer school.

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

- We will be compiling final results for our ELP as we finish up the year.
- Students completed our second Adopt-a-Highway cleanup yesterday, 5/14. We found a bit more trash this time compared to last fall, including several large items.

7. Discussion Items:

7.1 School Board Training: None

7.2 Director Evaluation: The Board and Dan discussed his ongoing professional development. He has already completed 25 (annually) required hours, using the Minnesota Charter Board Training and Development website. He also intends to attend the MDE sponsored COMPASS Summer Institute in June. The Board encouraged his participation in the Charter Leaders' Institute (online) Training that was recommended by Osprey Wilds, after July 1st.

The Board reviewed the questions for the anonymous staff survey to be used as part of the Director's evaluation.

7.3 Osprey Wilds Site Visit Follow-Up (Letter): The Board reviewed the letter (April 2, 2025) from Addie Mazza to the Board. This was mainly to focus our discussion of the 3 Year Strategic Plan/Academic Plan at the Annual Meeting.

7.4 Staff Salaries 2025-2026: The Board reviewed the spreadsheet of proposed salaries that was included in the meeting packet. Travis Berends said that they would fit into next years' budget. Dan was instructed to move forward with those amounts.

8. Action Items:

8.1 MIYO Health (formerly Tele Teachers) 25-26 SY Contract: This year Christy Rappoport has provided Special Education Services (remotely by computer). Dan says that she is a wonderful teacher and has been assured that she will continue working for us. The board reviewed the statement of work and the Master Services Agreement (printed in the meeting packet). *Cody H. made a motion that Discovery Public School of Faribault enter into agreement with MIYO Health, to provide Special Education Services/ .8 FTE and/or approximately 16 Students, from August 25, 2025 to June 30, 2026. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.2 DPS 2025-2026 School Year Calendar: The Board reviewed the calendar (printed in the meeting packet). *Cody H. made a motion to approve the Discovery Public School 2024-2025 School Calendar. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.3 Dan Weisser Summer School Teacher Agreement (Session 1): The Board reviewed the agreement (printed in the meeting packet). *Sam M. 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 2025, contingent on enrollment of students. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.4 Sharon Hansen Summer School Teacher Agreement (Session 2): The Board reviewed the agreement (printed in the meeting packet). *Ally L. 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 (4-0). Sharon H. abstained.*

8.5 DPS School Board Elections (Russ, Ally): Sharon H. and Cody H. counted the votes and verified the ballots submitted. Russ Kennedy and Alexandra Luthe were both reelected as Directors of the Board of Discovery Public School. Both agreed to serve on the Board for a three-year term and submit to a background check. *Sam M. made a motion that we certify the results of the School Board Election. The motion was seconded by Sharon H. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.6 2024-2025 School Board Meeting Dates: *Cody H. made a motion to approve the School Board Meeting Dates as printed in the packet. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (5-0).*

8.7 MSHSL Agreement: Our sports co-op (boys' football and basketball) with Bethlehem Academy has been beneficial to both schools. *Sam M. made a motion to submit our Resolution for Membership for the 2025-2026 School Year with the Minnesota State High School League. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

9. Adjournment: The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 19th, 2025 at 4:30pm in the school cafeteria. *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