Discovery Public School
126 - 8th Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021
Regular Meeting
July 17, 2025 @ 4:30pm

We believe all children can learn.
We believe a trusting, caring, and nurturing environment must pervade the entire school.
We believe in including as many children as possible in all of the learning opportunities.
We believe all of our actions should be consistent with our purpose and vision.
We believe students should be taught "how" to think, not "what" to think.
We believe the primary purpose of education is to teach children "how" to learn.
We believe children must take responsibility for and be actively involved in their learning.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** *The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Russ Kennedy.* Russ Kennedy (Chair), Sharon Hansen (Vice-Chair), Cody Hanson, Ally Luthe, Steven (Sam) Macklay, and Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio) were present. Sarah Hammer arrived at 4:40 pm.

2. **Approval of the Agenda:** The agenda was revised to include 7.4 OW Open Meeting Law Update in 7.1 Board Training, add 8.4 in Action Items to appoint Steven (Sam) Macklay to the finance committee, and to include the time of adjournment in the agenda. *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the revised agenda. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (5-0).*

3. **Approval of the June 19, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes:** *Sharon H. made a motion to approve the June 19, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (5-0).*

4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** The financial statement was not included in the board packet due to final payments not yet concluded. The EOY will be available by the end of the month to send to OW, per Travis (Creative Planning) *Monthly Financial Statement approval was tabled until August because one was not received.*

5. **Citizen Participation:** None.

6. **Reports:**

6.1 Director's Report:

*Cash on Hand: It was determined that we would use the cash flow month ending cash balance in place of COH. That is what Creative Planning (formerly Bergan KDV) does for their other schools.

*Enrollment: 54

*Session 2 of Summer School started on 6/30/25. We have 3 students attending. Session 2 of Summer School ends on 7/18/25.

*We have had 10 - 12 new students register for the upcoming school year, most from the STEM school. We are still giving tours, and I anticipate we will add a few more. We may also see a few students transfer out towards the beginning of the school year.

6.2 Community: The Rice County Fair started this week. We have one student showing up for practice at BA to play football in the fall. We also have two incoming 10th grade students planning to play.

6.3 Finance: (Russ Kennedy, Dan Weisser, Adam Hewitt – *Creative Planning*) Date: 7/15/25

Attendance: Dan Weisser, Russ Kennedy, Adam Hewitt- Creative Planning, Travis Berends- Creative Planning

Discussion Items

*Title I - DPS found out from MDE last month that the school will not receive full Title l funding this school year due to the incorrect formula/calculation from last year. Rather than take it back from last year, it was taken out of this year's Title l funding. Travis mentioned that MDE was monitored by the Federal Govt. and some things changed at that point. (emails between Dan, Travis, and MDE are available if needed, Travis did ask several questions)

*Finance Committee- New guidance was discussed. School Board Finance Committee will be required to meet regularly and include at least one board member. Travis recommended that DPS meet every other month, more if needed. It was also discussed that DPS Board should add Adam Hewitt- Creative Planning to the Finance Committee, but note he works for Creative Planning. Adam will be taking over for Travis over the next 6 months and be the school's new Finance point of contact. Dan and Sharon have worked with Adam previously on grants, and are comfortable with that transition.

*Enrollment - Projected enrollment for the 25-26 school year is budgeted at 55. Dan estimates that the school is on track to start the school year near that number based on the number of newly registered students.

*July Finances - Financial reports will be provided later in July to OW. This is based on trying to get all final invoices, and finalize the previous Fiscal Year. This happens every July.

*Grants - School Funding, including grant money has not been paid out to MN schools at this point. Some of this funding is still uncertain. Hopefully this resolves in the near future.

6.4 Academic Committee: (Dan Weisser, Sharon Hansen)
Indicator 9: Postsecondary Readiness
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: 9 out of 9 students (100%) received a score of 70 or greater. (Exceeds Target)
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: 8 out of 9 students (88.9%) earned a Job Skills Certificate. (Meets Target)

Data is not yet available for MCA assessments or other accountability measures from MDE (consistent attendance and graduation rates).

We are considering a change to our bell schedule to include a homeroom period. We would make each class only 50 minutes, instead of 52 or 53, and use those minutes for a 15 minute homeroom between 2nd and 3rd hour. Students requested this time to connect with teachers more, and it was also suggested at our last site visit. Students could use this time to complete any missing work they have, as well as just connect to teachers. The expectation is that teachers would use the time to actively interact with students. It would not be extra prep time for teachers.

6.5 Environmental Education: (Sharon Hansen, Garret Bitker)
Our Environmental Literacy Plan Summary (ELP) was submitted prior to June 30th. We met the standards for all of the indicators except Indicator 1: Awareness, where we approached the standard. We will address next year's ELP during workshop week. With several new teachers, our strategies might change some.

7. **<u>Discussion Items</u>:**

7.1 School Board Training: Open Meeting Law Update from Osprey Wilds
The board discussed the update from Osprey Wilds regarding open meeting law and virtual attendance at school board meetings.

7.2 Director Evaluation:
*Dan attended the 2025 COMPASS Summer Institute Conference in Minneapolis on W/TH (6/24, 6/25). Continuing Education Units (CEU) and The Minnesota Board of School Administrators (BOSA) CEUs were provided for Institute attendees.

COMPASS Summer Institute Notes

Sessions Dan attended:

Day 1: Secondary Literacy: What Challenges are Hiding in Plain Sight?

*Read Act was discussed, Different Screeners, Students don't all gain the skills needed at an early age

Evidence Based School Climate Supports: District Panel

*Panel of presenters from COMPASS talked about school's they had worked with, along with panel of school leaders who worked with COMPASS on school climate. There was an emphasis on student connection, and all staff and students having and using the same rules.

Day 2: MTSS Journey
*Mult-tiered systems of support. Staff from a school discussed their process of implementing MTSS (This was more geared towards larger school districts). MTSS is a framework many schools use to give targeted support to struggling students. MTSS is designed to help schools identify struggling students early and intervene quickly.

Brilliant Teaching: The Craft of Equity in Everyday, Ordinary Classrooms

*All students are capable of learning, but must be engaged, and want learn. Hook students in.

Culturally Responsive School Leadership

*Focused on positive social, emotional, behavioral, developmental, and academic outcomes for every student. Inclusion vs. Exclusion, involving families, give options, etc.

7.3 DPS Food Service Contract SY25-26:
Dan signed the Food Service Contract with Faribault Public Schools for the 2025-26 school year. There was a small increase in cost over last year.

7.4 OW Open Meeting Law (included in 7.1)

7.5 OW Finance Committee Update: Regular, scheduled meetings must by held at least every other month. Meeting dates and notes will be included in monthly school board meeting minutes.

8. <u>Action Items</u>:

8.1 Sara Caron Teaching Agreement: *Sharon H. made a motion to accept the teaching agreement with Sara Caron to teach English. The motion was seconded by Sarah H. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.2 Designation of the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for SY25-26: *Sharon H. made a motion to designate Dan Weisser as the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for the 2025-26 school year. The motion was seconded by Sam M. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.3 OW School Board Assessment and Evaluation: The board conducted a self-evaluation using the tool provided by Osprey Wilds. One item on the evaluation required data that was not available at the meeting. *Sarah H. made a motion to accept the board evaluation pending the revision of the revenue and expenditures budget variances (are they within 5% of the February 1 approved budget). The motion was seconded by Ally L. The motion carried (6-0).*

8.4 Appoint Steven (Sam) Macklay to Finance Committee:. *Sharon H. made a motion to appoint Steven (Sam) Macklay to the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Cody H. The motion carried (6-0).*

9. <u>Adjournment</u>: Board members were reminded that our next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 4:30pm. *Russ K. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 pm. The motion was seconded by Sarah H. The motion carried (6-0).*

Respectfully submitted: Sharon Hansen