

**Discovery Public School**  
**126 - 8th Street N.W.**  
**Faribault, MN 55021**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 16, 2026 @ 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 4:35 p.m. by Sharon Hansen. Dan Weisser (Ex-Officio), Sharon Hansen (Vice-Chair), S. Sam Macklay (Secretary), Cody Hanson, Ally Luthe and Chris Whitmire were present. Emily Edstrom (Osprey Wilds liaison) attended remotely.*
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** *Sharon asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Cody made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ally. The motion carried (5-0).*
3. **Approval of the February 19, 2026 Minutes:** *Ally made a motion to approve the February 19, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Cody. The motion carried (5-0).*
4. **Monthly Financial Statement:** *The Board reviewed and discussed the financial report. There was a question about "Repairs and Maintenance" on p. 8. Dan will research and report. Sam made a motion to accept the [As of] March 31, 2026 Financial Reports, as printed in the meeting packet. The motion was seconded by Cody. The motion carried (5-0).*
5. **Citizen Participation:** *None.*
6. **Reports:**

**6.1 Director's Report:**                      Cash Balance: \$87,878                      Enrollment: 50

- DPS has completed the ACT for 11th and 12th grade students (4/7/26) and has started MCA Testing. NWEA Testing will follow in May.
- DPS fundraiser is currently taking place (Discovery Donations!). Money raised will go towards new school Chromebooks for the students to use.
- DPS is planning a trip to Whitewater State Park to release the trout they have raised for the Trout in the Classroom program on 4/23/26.
- DPS graduation is scheduled to take place at the Paradise Center for the Arts at 5 PM on June 4, 2026. We are expecting to have 5 Seniors walking. We also had one student graduate at the end of Qtr. 3.

**6.2 Community:** No report.

**6.3 Finance Committee:** (Russ K., Dan W., Sam M., Adam Hewitt/Creative Planning) Dan, Sam and Adam met (video conference) on April 14 at 11:15am. We discussed the updating the Cash Flow Projection Summary (p.10) with realistic amounts for State Aid Payments in the next three months. Proposed staff salaries for next year were reviewed. We also talked about PTO payouts that will be substantially larger than in the past. The Board will approve the final working budget at the May meeting. Dan noted that DPS has now received all grant money that was expected.

**6.4 Academic Committee:** (Dan W., Sharon H.) All seven students who signed were here to take the ACT on April 7th. Results will not be available for another few weeks.

Most students have completed the MCA Reading and MCA Math assessments. The Science MCA started today and will continue tomorrow. The reading test has been updated this year, so scores will not be available until they are “leveled” like the science scores last year. Math scores are looking better than usual with one student meeting standards and several in the “partially meets” category. Scores are not official and not to be released publicly until the end of summer.

NWEA MAP Growth Assessments will be administered in the last week of April.

**6.5 Environmental Education:** (Sharon H., Garret Bitker) The school-wide field trip to Whitewater is scheduled for next Thursday, April 23. Students will release the trout when we first arrive. Then they will be divided into three groups for a rotation of activities including fishing, hiking, and fire-starting (with s’mores). It looks like we might get a larger student turnout than previous years.

## **7. Discussion Items:**

**7.1 School Board Training:** Financial Oversight: Five Key Questions for Minnesota Charter School Boards to Answer at Every Meeting. The “Sounding Board” article was included in the meeting packet. We reviewed the “key questions” and evaluated our performance (favorable). We also looked at the Financial Performance Indicators that our authorizer uses to evaluate our compliance with our charter contract.

**7.2 Director Evaluation:** Dan demonstrated deep understanding of financial oversight and operations by leading the School Board Training (Discussion Item 7.1).

**7.3 School Board Election (two open seats):** The Board reviewed the ballot included in the meeting packet. Dan assured us that all the candidates are enthusiastic about joining the Board of Directors.

**7.4 Teaching Agreements:** The Board reviewed the proposed pay spreadsheet for the 2026-2027 school year. We discussed the feasibility of two teachers working reduced hours next year. The teachers’ agreements should be approved at the next regular meeting.

## **8. Action Items:**

**8.1 Indigo Education Contract SY26-27 (SPED Director):** Dan reported that he and the relevant staff have a very positive work relationship with our special education director, Kori Ryan. The Board reviewed the contract (included in the meeting packet). The cost (\$21,150) is the same as last year. *Cody 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, 2026 and expiring on June 30, 2027. The motion was seconded by Ally. The motion carried (5-0).*

**8.2 Navigate Care Consulting Agreement SY26-27:** A licensed school nurse consultant is utilized at DPS for health care advice and SPED student evaluations. The Board reviewed and discussed the Agreement (printed in the meeting packet). *Sam made a motion to approve the Agreement for Service and Statement of Work with Kristen M Gerber, Owner/Licensed School Nurse, of Navigate Care Consulting LLC, from July 1, 2026 until June 30, 2027. Annual service totals beyond \$2000/year for general education and \$1500/year for special education will require Board approval. The motion was seconded by Cody. The motion carried (5-0).*

**8.3 Strategic Staffing Solutions Service Agreement (Speech Pathologist):** The Board reviewed the Service Agreement (printed in the meeting packet). The estimated cost will be \$11,808 (up from \$11,520 last year). *Cody 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, 2026 through June 30, 2027. The motion was seconded by Ally. The motion carried (5-0).*

- 9. Adjournment:** The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 4:30pm in the school cafeteria. The Annual Meeting will be held the same day, in the cafeteria at 5:30pm. *Sharon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Cody. The motion carried (5-0). Meeting adjourned at 5:14pm.*

***Respectfully submitted: Sam Macklay, Secretary***