

DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Community Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2009
Location: Carl Sandburg Lower Building

6:30	5 min	Pete/Dawn	WELCOME
6:35	5 min	Pauline	INTRODUCTION OF NEW FAMILIES
			NEW FAMILIES!
			First grade:
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Danna & Aaron Kapacinskas (Ivan)• Amy Drackert & David Pelton (Tirzah)• Gina Seal & Andy Pennell (Madeline)• Sunnie Yun & Joe Przychodzen (Sky)• Katherine & Paul Robichaux (Austin)
			Fourth Grade
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Johanna & David Hose (Benjamin)
			Sixth Grade
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sandy & Tom Hill (Tyler)
			NEW SIBLINGS!
			1st Grade
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yvonne & Mark Baker (Brooke)• Stella Batzel & Susan Flick (Jessie)• Jeff Gerber & Becca Bassingthwaighte (George)• Saritha & Vijay Gunturu (Saisriram)• Julie & Robert Hoyt (Isaac)• Frani & Mark Kruschwitz (Lia)• Susan & Mark Vossler (Claire)
			Third Grade
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ted & Peggy Crane (Sophie)
6:40	5 min	Mark Bl.	PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
6:45	5 min	Diane	TEACHER'S REPORT
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diane gave a welcome to the New Families. She gave a "wonderful thank you" to Cris Pederson for her clever idea of the treasure box and all of the personal notes we received from the students and parents. The breakfast and every added touch made it a wonderful staff appreciation week!
6:50	30 min	Sara/Stella	TREASURER'S REPORT
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget review and passage for 2009/2010 school year – please see attached budget recommendations from the DCS Steering meeting
			Income:
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member Contributions: based on 72 students, with 93% contribution rate.• Corporate Matching: assumed slightly less due to Microsoft layoffs.
			Expenses:
			Enrichment (Field Trips, Enrichment (Friday Specials), Science, Art, Class Libraries) represents 41.89% of budget.
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field Trips: based on \$1,500 for field trips, plus \$325 for one bus (in addition to PTSA bus)

Community Building represents 29.88% of budget

- Graduation based on a formula with the expected number of students. 3% increase due to cost increases. Includes pizza party, tassels, Ms Engquist's gifts to students, etc.
- Graduating family gifts based on number of families.
- Staff Appreciation: increasing "Instructional Assistant" category to include Specialists and other staff. Adding a breakfast category with \$100.
- Fall, Winter Events and Spring Camp: In the past these have been expected to break even. There was consensus on the Steering that due to combination of economy and our surplus, the school will subsidize these events. Organizers can choose to charge or not charge, with the net cost to DCS being shown in the budget.
- Memory Pages: Including financial hardship assumption

Other represents 8.25% of budget.

- Community Service: slight increase
- Mail Server: unknown cost; has been provided by school family
- Grounds Care: Increased for mulch not provided in full by PTSA
- Green Team: In past, has received grant funding.

Classrooms represent 12.75% of the budget.

- Increasing Teacher Continuing Ed

Board of Directors Expenses represent 7.24% of budget.

- Insurance: will look at lower cost options for next year, but assuming similar cost just in case.

CONCLUSION:

- \$16,827 in Income
- \$20,591 in Expenses
- \$3,763.90 shortfall
- Approximately \$22,000 in our bank account as surplus from prior years. Steering wants to keep some cushion, but wants to use contributions and surplus wisely to support our children's education.

Budget was passed unanimously. Patty R. made the motion to pass, Stella B. made the motion to second.

7:20 10 min Anne/Sheryl **VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR REPORT**

- Sign Up on Org Chart for Positions for Next Year
- Need Lots of Volunteers for Friday June 12 Field Day. Contact your room rep.
- DCS Picnic is scheduled for Wed June 17th. We always need help for this as well.
- If you are done with your 65 hour requirement, please keep recording your hours and turning them in. And please keep volunteering!
- Big THANK YOU to all of our wonderful families this year and all the hard work you have done, volunteering in so many ways, to make our school fabulous!

7:30 5 min Angela **PTSA LIAISON REPORT**

- Outdoor Education fundraising: We made \$275 at the school dance bake sale, and \$1,375 in carnival concessions. The Cookie dough fundraiser totals are still pending, but at last count we'd done about \$4,000 in sales – at a 45% profit, that puts us at roughly \$1,800.
- All total we've raised about \$3,450 for outdoor education since March.
- The question was also raised as to whether we had met our goals for the fundraising – the truthful answer was we didn't really have a goal. We had not done fundraising for outdoor ed. in several years, so this year was mainly a "let's see what we can raise" kind of year. I think the consensus is that, considering the effort of doing the concessions ourselves, the amount raised was significant enough to continue doing the carnival concessions ourselves as an outdoor ed. fundraiser.

- PTSA needs your involvement! Remember that PTSA is the Parent Teacher Student Association for both Carl Sandburg AND Discovery Community School. Your volunteer hours with PTSA can be used for your DCS volunteer commitment!

- 7:35 0 min Cameron **FINANCE/GRANTS**
- Grant season seems to be early spring and early fall. We received two grants this year from the Department of Ecology.
- 7:35 0 min Mark Ba. **COMMUNICATIONS**
- Communications chair needed for next year. Sign up on the org chart!
- 7:35 0 min Denise **FACILITIES**
- You can weed anytime – just get a permission slip from Denise.
 - ***Can this permission slip be added to the website? Yes, working on this.***
 - ***Does it need to be signed every time, or can you fill out a form for the year? Once per person, for the school year***
 - Herbicide Free—feedback requested: *Why aren't we getting better turnout?*
- 7:35 5 min Susan/Christi **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**
- Green team updates - \$200 added to budget. Looking to get a grant from IKEA for more plastic party ware.
 - Community outreach event recap – feedback requested on the following events: *School supply drive for Hopelink, Food Lifeline, Breakfast-in-a-bag for homeless women, Food drive for Hopelink, Homeless women's luncheon, Earth Day at St Ed's, Beach Cleanup.* (Please write feedback on agenda and turn into Christi) Please be sure all feedback is constructive – we are all volunteers!
 1. *Are these events worth repeating?*
 2. *Do you want to see more or fewer events?*
 3. *The spring (Earth Day) event tends to get low participation. Why might this be? Should we forego a spring c/o event?*
- 7:40 5 min Jill/Sherri **ENRICHMENT**
- Enrichment/Friday Specials recap and thank you
 - Volunteers needed for next year
- 7: 45 5 min Pauline/Nadine **COMMUNITY BUILDING**
- Shannon – Memory Pages Order Forms Coming Soon! Cost: \$18 for 40 full color pages (in sheet protectors) + 3-ring binder, if needed (1"-\$1.50, 2"-\$2.50, 3"-\$3.50)
 - DCS end of year, all-school picnic will be June 17 at Big Finn Hill Park. Janet is organizing.
 - Last PNO of the year at Linda and Mike McAllister's house, Friday, June 19, 6-10. RSVP: mlmcalli@verizon.net
- 7:50 10 min **NEW BUSINESS**
- Susie – LWSD luncheon follow-up. We had five attendees from DCS! Next year hoping for ten!
 - Susan - DCS snacks--are we still in support of community snacks...considering all the allergies and the effort that goes into reminding parents? Pros and cons were discussed briefly – but this is really a decision made by teachers and will be discussed further at curriculum night in the fall of 2009.
 - Spring Camp thank you to volunteers!!! Laura, Sudie, Nancy, Ron, Karen, and everyone else that helped out. Food was terrific; planning was fantastic, weather could not have been better! Looking forward to next year.
- 8: 00 30 min Pauline/Nadine **COMMUNITY BUILDING**
- Acknowledgement of the Dearly Departing: Diane and Jim Jewell, Karen West and Hugh Mitchell, Susy Matthews and Moose Evarts, Sudie and Bobby Elkayssi, Guita and Jeff Baldwin, and Paulette and Jim Jeffrey.
 - Slide show was fantastic – thank you to Pauline for putting this together!
- 8:30 ADJOURN – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30.**