

# DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

## Community Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2011

Location: Carl Sandburg Lower Building

6:30 **WELCOME** *presented by Laura*

6:35 **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** *presented by Mark*

- Leaving is bittersweet, especially with all the nice comments that have been sent. There will be a hiring committee for his replacement that includes representatives of staff and parents (including one from DCS). There will be an information night that allows for parents to give their input on what they are looking for in a principal.
- Discussion on the principles behind the budget discussion.
- The last wall is being built on the new school, and the work is moving very fast. However, we are still not on schedule yet despite the extra work hours and work days, but we are being assured of an August move in.
- In May the MSP (Measurement of Student Progress) is coming. The Sandburg 4<sup>th</sup> grade will take the test sooner than the DCS 4<sup>th</sup> grade due to the Sandburg kids being part of the sample group for the district.
- Thanks to the parents for allowing the teachers to have LEAP days for learnings. Realize the issues that these dates can have on parents, so thanks for your help with having these days.

6:47 **YOUNGERS TEACHER'S REPORT** *presented by Diane*

- Displayed pictures from the construction.
- Imagine Children's Museum was the location for the March Learning Journey, which fit in with Balance and Motion – the current science theme.
- They are working on reports on important women.

6:56 **MIDDLES TEACHER'S REPORT** *presented by Carol*

- Working on building the classroom community, by making groups that are responsible for various activities in the classroom.
- Studying Diverse Cultural Groups, which is focusing on Chinese-Americans. The work involves literature study, in room presentations on the culture, and will a learning journey to the International District.
- The science module is the physics of sound, with their individual projects coming together next week.

7:03 **OLDERS TEACHER'S REPORT** *presented by Monica*

- Math is a big piece of the Youngers, and they are moving to Geometry and working on circles right now. Demonstrated some of the work the students are expected to accomplish, and some books the kids are reading to tie in thoughts of math with an understanding of what it entails.
- A brief description of Islandwood (<http://www.islandwood.org>), the location of where the 5th graders will be going for their time of Outdoor School.
- Graduation will be 2:00 on Friday 22 June.

7:20 **TREASURER'S REPORT** *presented by Shannon S*

- Due to a surprise corporate match we hit that part of our budget, but we are still a couple of thousand behind in income. There are many areas of the budget that will be under in terms of expenses, but do expect many late expenses. The end of the year should still be under budget, and we should finish with about \$5000 to \$6000 in the bank.
- Bank of America accounts are closed out.
- Discussion of budget for 2012 – 2013 started with a historical reminder of how and why the \$25k surplus that existed a few years ago has been purposely spent. It was noted that income has been on a decline over the last few years (such as due to corporate matching diminishing). In light of this (no surplus to spend/decrease in income), the new budget reflects a decrease in amounts budgeted as well as a request to increase contribution amount by \$50. This increase is the first in many years.
- Additional income will be looked to be garnered by doing a better job of alerting folks who have not contributed (current contribution rate is around 80%).
- While there are cuts (like in surplus fund requests) we are still spending more than we have in the past. We have also

added a line item for the surplus to keep it at a certain level.

- Changes to the budget include: removal of the bus transportation; Friday special amounts were decreased to match previous year's; academics and other items reduced to match actual expenditures; Older's Nature's Classroom is a big increase due to PTSA no longer covering any of it since Outdoor Ed is no longer a part of Sandburg's curriculum (longer discussion on this topic – what it is, costs, and dues collection); some items reduced due to one year increases to cover two grades graduating. This resulted in a finished budget of about \$700 surplus rather than a \$15,000 deficit (had all expenses remained the same).
- **Motion by Salmon/Jill** to accept the 2012 – 2013 budget as presented passed unanimously.

8:20 **DCS ELECTIONS** *presented by Pauline*

- We have a full slate of candidates, but we are still accepting nominations until 20 April. The election will be in April Community Meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

8:23 **COMMUNITY OUTREACH** *presented by Susan V/Setty*

- All of the activities from this month went well.
- Been looking around for Earth Day activities other than pulling ivy.
- Still collecting for Room to Read.

8:25 **NEW BUSINESS/Q&A** *presented by Amy*

- DCS Logo apparel is available; order forms and checks need to be returned to Amy by 30 March, and merchandise will be available at the April Community meeting.
- 5th Grade Class shirt orders are due by 28 March with shirts being delivered prior to the kids leaving for Islandwood.
- There are still spots available for folks to sign up for Friday Specials.
- There are open positions available that don't require elections. Many of these positions are ones that don't require time in the classroom (new parent coordinator; grant writer; volunteer coordinator; memory page coordinator), please contact Amy or Laura.

8:31 **ADJOURN**

**No Reports this month:**

- Communication..... Hannah
- Community Building..... Frani
- Enrichment..... James
- Finance ..... Open Position
- PTSA ..... Peggy/Frani
- Volunteer Coordinator..... Kim