

Discovery Community School

Steering Meeting Agenda

August 21, 2013

Location: Turpin Home

Attendees: Rachel, Cris, Rick, Jeff, John, Shilpa, Amy, James, Heather, Julie, Janet, Diane, Stephanie, Lindsay, SusanR

WELCOME Rachel

TEACHER'S REPORT Diane

Carol and Diane have both met Cheryl, she seems very excited for the new position. The staff met for about two hours on Aug 9, and they have been in the classrooms a lot preparing, a welcome change after last year! Julie left Cheryl a very detailed document to help with the transition. Cheryl's picture and bio are up on the website.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT Heather

We have just received an increase in staff allocation for the building. We also have an incredible new teacher for the Olders. Modernization changes are creeping along. (Anything not right in the new building is part of the modernization; this includes some warped façade, painting corrections, wrong furniture.)

Cris passed on some comments to Heather, summing up the emails she's received regarding the teacher change. Heather was following district procedures regarding public notice of the change. For a more detailed explanation, please talk to a member of Steering.

Susan reported that there has been some unlawful use of the playground (i.e., there were some kids riding motorized dirt bikes in the natural playground, and they did some damage). Heather said to call 9-1-1 with a non-emergency call, and take a picture if possible. City of Kirkland Police are fairly responsive.

TREASURER'S REPORT Jeff/Rick

Jeff will be the first year treasurer (responsible for accounts receivable) and Rick will be second year treasurer (responsible for accounts payable). Community still needs to vote to approve Rick's appointment to serve out the rest of Andrew's term; we will do that at the Ice Cream Social.

Current bank account balance is just over \$20K.

There is a request to make the budget document more legible and easy to understand. Cris will work with Jeff to improve the tables. Also, parents have asked to have some paper copies available at each Community meeting.

There was a short discussion on IslandWood and fundraising, continued below.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENRICHMENT

Julie/SusanR

Planning for Friday Specials is well underway. Julie and Susan are also working with Winter Event chairs; they are considering a theme. There will be no “play” during Winter Friday Specials, but student-led short skits will be welcome at Winter Event.

Dates for Friday Specials still need to be determined, working around other calendar events. Susan is looking at similar dates to last year. We are hoping to avoid use of the music room, but may use art/science room. Susan will coordinate with Diane and Janet.

Also need to confirm new recess times, and how that will affect set-up for Friday Specials.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Lindsay

Root Beer Social: We have all volunteers we need. Teachers are working on their skit. We will leave some space in the front of the commons for the kids to gather in their class groups on the floor. Students will go with their teachers for 20 min or so in the classrooms, while the parents have a short meeting. Need to send a runner to the classrooms to let them know when the meeting is over and the social has started. Ice cream will be served in the covered area. Agenda will include: Packet distribution. Voting in new Treasurer. Also, Boy Scouts and PTSA will be on hand during the social to encourage participation.

Family Photo Bulletin Board: Stephanie will lead. We want to collect photos of as many families as possible to create a bulletin board—and a SmugMug gallery—to help us all match parents and kids. Bring a photo to the social, email one to Stephanie, or have your photo taken at the social. Stephanie will send email to the Community.

DCS Swim Event: Peter Kirk Pool Sunday, August 25, 11:00 a.m. – Noon

Calendar: Lindsay will be managing the DCS calendar again this year, please submit any noteworthy events to Lindsay.

FUNDRAISING

James

Dues: We received 100% of our family contributions last year, yay!

Fundraising Update: look for a sheet that describes our passive fundraisers in the first day packets. It is mostly unchanged. James is not planning to add anything at this time.

Grants: Lake Washington Foundation turned us down. Applying to Target foundation. Looking to partner with Sandburg for a grant for the natural playground, or a garden.

Other fundraisers: We received positive feedback on the auction with Winter Event, so will probably do that again. Pie share also did well, and will likely be repeated. Cris and Amy are looking into a wine tasting event, possibly in January. Matching funds from corporations are a big contributor; if your company does matching donations, please apply for them!

This year we are refining our fundraising strategy based on lessons learned from last year. Last year was our first year in recent memory to do fundraising, and we learned a lot. Diane mentioned that Bingo was done successfully in the past and was quite popular.

Rick proposed doing family photos in the commons as a fundraiser. Perhaps with costumes and props. Need to recruit people to donate their time and expertise, but would be open to the larger Sandburg community, and could build over the years.

Cris proposed running putt-putt golf as a fundraiser, similar to the Fall Event last year, where our families made the holes. Again, open to the larger Sandburg community.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH Rachel on behalf of Susan

School Supply Collection for Hopelink will go thru September 13th.

Herbicide Free Work Party: Sunday, Sept 1, 11a-1p.

Green Team is looking for lunch time parent volunteers to assist with composting and recycling. It is gross, but fun, and they will feed you lunch!

We are seeking a Co-Chair for Susan! She will be graduating this year. Please consider this position.

NEW BUSINESS Cris/Rachel

Rules of Procedure: Last year with the Bylaw update we took out a lot of procedural information, with the intent of putting this information in a set of documents that can be more easily changed. If you have any ideas of procedures that need to be documented, please send them to Cris. Current procedures in draft: meetings/attendance; dues; rules of order.

Cris provided some clarification as to who is a "Committee Chair" and is thus required to come to Steering. Rick said that he would work with Cris to create a graphic org chart. Please note that ALL community members are ALWAYS welcome at Steering!

IslandWood: The Olders trip to IslandWood will take place this year Feb 24-27. There was some discussion as to selection of counselors, and it was recognized that Cheryl will lead that selection process.

Diane indicated that if they need help preparing their classrooms prior to the start of school they will reach out to their individual class lists.

ADJOURN

No Reports this month:

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR Shelley

COMMUNICATIONS John