

Discovery Community School

Steering Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2014

Location: Sandburg Library

Attending: SusanB, Renee, AmyD, ShelleyG, Diane, JanetZ, Heather, Vikram, PaulP, JulieH, Cariann, Christi, Lindsay

WELCOME Susan

Welcome! Please note that this meeting is the Annual General Meeting of the DCS Parent Group, per our bylaws. Thank you for coming.

TEACHERS REPORT Diane

Things are going well, enjoying the new classes. Dedicating Friday afternoons to "Discovery Time" (multi-age activities) when there are no Friday Specials. Very fun and very randomly chosen groups, who have a few weeks together to get to know each other. Youngers adore it, and the Middles and Olders really take the Youngers "under their wings". Goal-setting conferences coming in a couple of weeks.

TREASURER'S REPORT Cris/Matt (presented by Susan)

Currently \$36,110.31 in our checking account, and about \$4000 in our savings. Everything is going well with the QuickBooks but there has been a learning curve.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT Heather

Things are going well, staff is feeling very positive about how things are going and how well they are all working with each other.

Per the incident earlier this week (ammunition found by student on school grounds), Heather felt it was best to inform everyone and be transparent. Police officer who responded felt that situation was handled very well by staff, suspects that the shells were "novelty" items that had fallen out of a pocket. We may never know how it came to be there. Safety procedures that were in place were correctly executed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENRICHMENT Julie

Friday Specials: everything is falling into place. Four sessions are lined up, groups are selected, everyone received their first or second choice (actually, all but 9 received their first choice!) Still looking for badminton rackets, Julie will look into borrowing from Finn Hill Middle. The four tracks are: Predators of the NW, Badminton, Super Snackers, Paris in Four Days. More volunteers are needed—visit our website to see what sessions are open.

Some discussion around the volunteer section of the website: desire is to have the event coordinator receive an email when someone signs up to help with an event (ie, Friday Specials). Currently, only the volunteer receives a confirmation email. Vikram will see if it is possible to copy the event coordinator with these emails. Currently, the event

coordinator can sign in and see who has signed up for the event. John will model this at the next Community Meeting.

COMMUNITY BUILDING Cariann

Parent's Night Out, 11/8, 7 – 10pm, at the Salmon/Odderson household, stay tuned for an invite.

FUNDRAISING Lindsay

We had a very successful back-to-school sign up for all of the passive fundraisers. iGive, in particular, has been communicating regular updates.

Auction and Raffle is in the planning for Winter Event, please start reaching out to corporations now, as many are willing to provide goods and services if they are given several months advance notice. There will probably be a combination of raffle baskets and auction items, with more (and smaller) items available for the kids. If anyone is interested in helping out, Larissa and Lindsay are looking for volunteers.

Lindsay is investigating "Clothes for the Cause", will have more info next meeting on the logistics. Primarily a fundraiser, but has a community outreach component as well.

PTSA LIAISON Christy

Don't forget to read the Informer!

March 5 Steering will need to be moved, as PTSA will be hosting our annual Family Math Night. Committee agreed to change to another date that week.

IslandWood next year: Sandburg organizers have asked if DCS would like both schools to go at the same time next year. General feeling at Steering was that it would foster the community between the two schools, as well as save on costs. Combining with Sandburg in the fundraising efforts will also help kids make connections prior to going to IslandWood. Concern was raised that DCS still wants to send the Olders class—including 4th graders—as part of their experience; Heather said that was a given. Steering is supportive of this.

Speaking of IslandWood, idea was put forward for there to be an Olders Fundraising Coordinator, to handle concessions at Fall Event, the Pie Sale at the Learning Celebration, and other IslandWood specific fundraisers (FYI: IslandWood requires the students themselves to raise at least some of the funds toward the trip). This year, the Olders room parents (Shelley and Katty) will lead this effort, but it may be best to have a separate position designated for this next year.

Christi will be gone Oct 23-Dec 6, so if there is someone who can cover PTSA meetings while she is gone, please let Christi and/or Shelley know.

NEW BUSINESS Rachel/Susan

Facebook discussion (continued from August Meeting): To sum, TaraC has volunteered to administer a DCS Facebook site, whether we want to set up our own page, or have Tara be an admin on the joint Sandburg/DCS page. Discussion was inconclusive at the August meeting; privacy was a big concern. Another is that it may conflict with our new website, which we are trying to steer people to as the one centralized location for all info. Concerns about further fragmentation of our communication. Christi will find out about the PTSA and District rules for Facebook pages, and Steering will review them to

determine that they meet our needs. Susan will talk to Tara to let her know that we are investigating this new form of communication.

Storage of electronic documents: We have one web-hosted email address, DCS.Treasurer@hotmail.com. Any documentation received for the Treasurer can be kept and stored, so that future Treasurers can refer back to historical documents. However, there are more "business related" documents than just Treasury documents that need a place to be stored. There is the ability to store documents on the DCS website (maybe 1-2GB), so we need to look at that as well. Since Cris was not in attendance, issue is tabled to the November meeting.

7:52p ADJOURN

No Reports this month:

COMMUNITY OUTREACH	Renee/Pam
COMMUNICATIONS	John
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR	Shelley