

DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Community Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2008, 6:30 PM
Location: Carl Sandburg Lower Building

Welcome Shannon

Shannon called the meeting to order. She also acknowledged the presence of incoming parents at the meeting.

Principal/VP Report Toby

Toby expressed his thanks on behalf of the entire staff for Staff Appreciation week. The support of the Community has been appreciated throughout the year. The staff is now focusing on closure and preparation for summer.

Teacher Report Diane

Diane reported that writing instruction is going well. The Youngers have been studying Balance and Motion using a Foss Science kit. They are also incorporating concepts from Cirque de Soleil. The Youngers loved Spring Camp. Diane presented some small gifts/awards to participants and leaders at Spring Camp.

Carol

Carol expressed her appreciation for all the gestures of parents during Staff Appreciation week. She reported that the Middles will go on their last field trip of the year on 5/29 to Tillicum Village. The Middles are involved in an Oregon Trail simulation unit in which they are participating enthusiastically. They are studying the Physics of Sound in Science. They have had a professional sound technician as a guest in the classroom from the Kirkland Heritage Society. He has been doing sound effects since the 1940's and is giving input on the Oregon Trail unit. He provided each of the students with a CD containing soundtracks from the original Archie radio shows. Carol also reported that the Third Grade Swim is going well.

Monica

Monica reported that an Artist in Residence has been visiting the classroom twice weekly. The Olders have also been using a Motion and Design unit in Science, for which they made three-dimensional paper creations. Donna led an art project using recycled household items. The Olders have also been following a story path of Colonial Boston in Social Studies. They have been working in "family groups" in which they are developing characters and creating a mural.

Welcome to New Families Pauline

Pauline welcomed the incoming families, and each new family introduced themselves.

Treasurer's Report/2008-09 Budget Approval Sara

Sara reported that according to the Financial Report dated 5/1/08, member contributions were under budget by \$442. Member contributions can be made at any time. Expenditures have been \$6,000 less than budget. There are still many expenditures that are being processed.

Sara distributed the 2008/09 budget. She noted the following changes: slight changes in the graduation budget, addition of \$150 for graduation gifts, increased budget for Community Service by \$100, and an addition in the budget for the email server. A motion was made to approve the budget. This motion was passed.

Volunteer Report Anne

The org chart was posted at the meeting for the Community to sign up. New families were encouraged to sign up as well. Anne is looking for a Co-Volunteer Coordinator for next year to help her expand the role. A request for two more volunteers for Graduation help was fulfilled.

Spring Camp Wrap-Up Dawn

Dawn expressed her appreciation for all those who helped make Spring Camp a great event. Dawn, along with Sudie and possibly Cory, will make this their last year on the Spring Camp Committee. She presented the need for a 2009 Spring Camp Committee. The jobs required include finding a venue, doing paperwork/sleeping arrangements, coordinating a theme/meals, providing communications, coordinating volunteers, budgeting, and coordinating crafts/activities. Committee members could perform one or more of these duties.

Finance/Grants

No report at this time.

Communications Dawn

Dawn reviewed the protocol for use of Parent Organizer and the email communications. Business can be posted on PO, sent through Dawn. Parent Organizer was introduced to new families.

The DCS -Business email group is for official business in the Community. This email goes to the whole community and to some teachers who elected to be on the list. It is used for time-sensitive information. The DCS-Community email goes only to those who have chosen to be on the list. It used for non-essential Community business such the need for a dentist recommendation, request for rides to school, need for a baby-sitter, etc.

Facilities Open

Denise sent word of a rescheduled Work Day/Weeding party on Sunday, June 8 from 10 - 1. DCS/Sandburg has been Herbicide free since 2000. Families are encouraged to come for part or all of the time. Kids are welcome and can play while parents work on removing weeds.

Community Outreach Susan/Christi

Susan noted that there will be a School Supplies Drive next fall and asked families to consider buying items for Hopelink when purchasing their own school supplies for this fall. Susan and Christi will continue to chair Community Outreach next year.

Enrichment Amy/Nadine/Jill

A thank you was extended to the Community for supporting Friday Specials. The role of Enrichment was explained to incoming families as being a non-official adjunct to the curriculum that the Community can provide. It includes Art and Science docents as well as Friday specials. Jill will chair Enrichment next year and welcomes ideas and suggestions from the Community.

Community Building Pauline

Staff Appreciation Susan

Susan reported that the breakfast for Staff Appreciation was a success.

PNO Parent's night out will be at Susan/Mark's on June 13. Please RSVP.

Celebration of Graduating Families Pauline

Pauline made a presentation to each family who has a child graduating this year and has no returning siblings, thus finishing their last year at DCS. A gift of a watch was presented to each family, along with an expression of appreciation for all of their unique contributions to DCS over the years.

A slide show prepared by Stuart was presented to the Community.

OTHER BUSINESS

New Business

A suggestion was made to have nametags at Spring Camp and other large group events.

Patty stated that an email will be going out to incoming families with an invitation to Summer camp.

Diane shared that Mary B is having her second baby shortly but hopes to be able to attend graduation.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

