

DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Steering Minutes
October 1, 2009
Location: Carl Sandburg Library

Start: 6:30pm

Members Present: Dawn G, Jill C-F, Mark B, Pete S, Stella B, Cameron A-S, Susan V, Shelley G, Kim H, David P, Diane J.

Non Member Present: Fred R

Jill welcomed everyone to meeting.

Principal's Message

- Flu update sent out by Mark. King Co. directs the guidelines Small out breaks in WA. Focus is on sterilization in the classrooms.
- Levy Year: Happens every 3 years. There are 2 levies: 1. Maintenance Levy 2. Capital Improvements Bond.
- February is when Levy's are run. No longer require super majority to pass levy.
- Community meetings will be held in the district. They will be held on Oct. 7, 8, 13 and 14. The times will be on the "Informer".
- Topics will include: grade configuration, projections by 2019-2025 are that there will be addl. 2500 more students in the district.
- LEAP DAY: The staff will be learning about new technology as well as working with students on the Autism Spectrum. Mark will put another word via the "Informer" what LEAP day is about.

Teacher's Report

- Teachers are prepping for goal setting meetings.
- Teachers were able to accommodate all the sibling meetings
- During community meetings, the teachers will be presenting on individual classes.

Treasurer's Report

- Pete is working on different format for the budget to make it easier to read.
- Income doing well, spending in moderation.
- Bank of America Signature card: Dawn, Pete and Stella currently have signing privileges. In order to update the account for this school year and add Jill's name as an authorized signature, both Treasurers and both Co-Chairs need to complete the bank's required paperwork. Stella will facilitate this process. Jill will have signing privileges once the signing process is complete with the bank.
- Mileage rate increased to .275/mile. New form on DCS website.

Volunteer Coordinator Report

- No positions open
- Fun Run going well
- Stella counting for youngers
- Susan V counting for middles
- 6 counters needed per class

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- 2 setups per class
- There was a discussion for counting hours if both parents attend meetings. Kim will follow up on this with Janet.

PTSA Liaison Report

- 1st PTA meeting, Oct. 15
- Community Outreach: Children's Hospital Crayola Crayon Drive.
- Boxtops: Remind Peggy to ensure DCS boxtops get into the DCS box vs. Sandburg box to make sure DCS gets credit.
- Oct. 7 is first Math Night at 6:30 pm in the gym.
- Nov. 4 Math Night – "Math-N-Stuff" store will be present selling math games.
- Sandburg/DCS Directory will be out in a few weeks.
- Applying for 3 grants thru the LWSD foundation.
- Scholarship Basket Theme from Sandburg/DCS is: "All Things Chocolate". This was changed from "Gardening". Deadline for donations will be in the "Informer".
- Oct. 7 "Walk to School Day".
- Fun Run: \$9,488.00 donations so far. 12.9% participation so far within Sandburg/DCS.
- Outdoor Education: Lengthy discussion about increased cost for Outdoor Ed this year. Last year the cost was \$6,000.00 (above what the kids paid out of pocket). This year, the costs are over \$12,000.00.
- There are additional costs that are DCS specific: Olders teacher sub: \$450.00, Olders Stipend: \$868.00 for a total of \$1318.00. There was motion for DCS to cover these costs and it passed unanimously.
- There is an additional cost for a male chaperone. It was tabled and will be discussed at Community Meeting.

Finance/Grants

- Cameron went to a class thru LWSD on grant writing. Majority of grant applications are accepted.
- Grant cannot exceed \$1,500.00.
- Applying for "V-Math" Subscription for middles and olders.
- Foreign Language Classes start next week. Spanish and Mandarin have enough students to have the class. Currently, not enough students registered for French. It will be cancelled if there are not enough students.

Community Outreach

- Canned Food Drive a success.
- Oct. DCS is joining the Children's Crayon Drive with the PTA. Information will be on PO.
- Unicef Halloween Drive: Collection boxes will be available in the DCS office and at Community Mtg. on Oct. 27. PO announcement will be made.
- Nov. 21 is the Food Lifeline event

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- Dec. –Considering a holiday craft project for a retirement center and a toy drive.
- March 13 – Homeless Women’s Luncheon
- Other ideas?? Coin Drive

Herbicide Free

- Weeding day went great
- Oct. 25 – Next weeding day
- May be getting some donations for plants for the front of school.
- Will discuss Facilities Chair Vacancy in the spring.

Community Building

- Nothing to report on the Fall Event
- PNO Oct. 16 at the Vosslers.

Communications

- Nothing to report

Enrichment

- Nothing to report

New Business

- Mission Statement: Committee forming to look at Mission Statement to see if it still meets the Communities needs. There is currently a Parent Group Mission Statement and a Philosophy Statement. Contact Dawn and Jill if you want to be on ad hoc committee.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Kim H. to follow up with Janet on individual volunteer hours.
- Community to vote on funding DCS specific costs for Outdoor Ed. See minutes for details.