

DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Steering Meeting Agenda

November 4, 2010

Location: Carl Sandburg Library

Attendees: Jill C-F, Laura, Mark, Diane, Dawn, Pete, Shannon B, Janet, David P, Shannon S, Susan V, Nadine, Cris, James, Cameron

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

6:32 **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** *presented by Mark*

Dealing with lots of assessments/goals setting.

Seen the latest model and drawing of the building, and the architects will be out at the Craft fair in December if folks want to talk to them. The building process will have a big impact; for example, the building takes over the whole playground. Discussion of how the building process works.

Discussion of the LWSD plans – see the LWSD text at <http://www.lwsd.org/News/News-and-Announcements/Pages/Board-to-Propose-Levy-Measure.aspx>, as well as the reorganization of the school breakdown.

6:45 **TEACHERS'S REPORT** *presented by Carol by Diane*

The piano has arrived and has been greatly appreciated

6:45 **TREASURER'S REPORT** *presented by Pete and Shannon S*

We have money, and we are a third of the way through our donations collected. There are more partial payments than there usually are. Budget was for 13.4 K and we are at about 4.4 K.

Discussion about getting donations in earlier as well as how to remind people on how to do it online. If you use online banking use the same address for the school as on the magnets. Only thing over budget is the olders' field trip budget, but their remaining field trips are free.

6:55 **PTSA LIASON** *presented by Dawn*

They have spent a lot of the budget in the Fall Homework club, so looking at how to fund the Winter/Spring Homework club – need roughly \$5000 to cover both. Looking at increasing the fees applied to students as well as increase the budget or perhaps looking for a volunteer to cover instead of paying for a second teacher (the second teacher is there as a safety issue not a teaching issue). Discussion on the number of kids and what is needed at these. Suggestions included: students working towards becoming teachers at Northwest University as well as UW-Bothell

Fun Run made the goal and some with matching gifts really making the difference. There is a committee looking at what to do with the excess funds. Dawn is on this committee and they are taking teacher submissions first.

7:05 **COMMUNITY BUILDING** *presented by Nadine R*

November Parents Night Out update at Shannon's this Saturday– see email.

7:06 **COMMUNITY OUTREACH** *presented by Susan V*

November: Food Lifeline – 16 for the morning (9 – 12); 24 for the afternoon (1 – 4). There is room for more (limit is 30). Mail will go out on this,

December: Hopelink Giving Tree – there are some changes on this program, and Susan is getting more information.

February: Rummage Sale – looking for this event to be held in the Carl Sandburg gym. *This led into a discussion of how events are to be advertised and run which is covered in the bylaws.*

March: helping the homeless month.

On-going: Water for People coin collection

7:15 **WINTER EVENT** *presented by Cris*

Date not booked yet; discussion of whether Friday or Saturday. Discussion was that Friday worked out because it was easy to flow from school into the event.

Event will be like last year – art show and student performances in a more concise vetted approach. Will also include the spring play.

Will look for a date in March (4 or 11)

Doing a bit of tweaking to make sure more kids are involved and there are bigger art.

7:27 **NEW BUSINESS/Q&A** *presented by Laura*

Surplus funds requests

Stability ball seating for the rest of DCS – cost of approximately \$1000 for 44 more balls (using a different vendor which is less expensive, but research seems to point that the product is comparable in quality). Things have been working well in the olders, so the teachers who had been waiting to see how it worked out are now behind it. The only issue now is the storing for the youngers class. Suggestion that this come out of classroom improvement; thus not a surplus fund request and does not need to go to Community.

Professional Art Teacher – cost of \$400 to hire a professional teacher/artist who will teach Chinese Ink Painting and Cartoon for 4 one hour sessions with each the youngers and the middles. Discussion of whether to take it out of other budget items. **No objection, so moved to Community with the recommendation of Steering**

Leslie Paige (Music class teacher who comes over from Henry David Thoreau Elementary to help out here) – because she travels over from Thoreau she cannot bring over all the instruments. Wants to get instruments purchased so they can be kept here. Discussion on why the spill over class doesn't have access to the instruments that non-spill over classroom already has. Recommend \$250 be sent to Paige to get some immediate needs; and then Dawn will take this request to PTSA. **No objection to this, approved unanimously**

Discussion on how much should be spent on surplus funds based on needs in the future and rainy day funds. Surplus has been hovering around \$20k; the budget has hovered around \$25k (for non-revenue neutral items). Discussion of looking at the next budget to determine what is essential so that a meaningful discussion could be made in regard to how much money should be held for a rainy day fund.

Start planning for this year's 4th graders who will graduate next year as 5th graders – some things to think about:

Should graduation ceremonies be two separate parties or one large one? Is there a difference in the type of celebration? Just something to think about as this is a DCS issue as opposed to a district issue. Discussion on who should be involved this decision – Monica, parents, the kids.

Outdoor ed? – will the 5th graders go with the 6th graders OR will the district send the 6th graders from middle schools? Mark said everyone is aware of these issues, but this has not come up yet at the district level, because they are just starting to work through the issues with the reconfiguration.

Budgeting

Planning for Information Night – Tuesday January 11, 2011 – 6:30 pm

Need to start introducing this at the next Community Meeting

How do we spice up Community Meetings? Many folks have come to meetings for years, how do they stay engaged? Perhaps this would also be a time to do Committee Meetings. E-mail ideas to Laura/Jill C-F.

Will talk about memory pages next time.

8:43 ADJOURN

No Reports this month:

Communications	Dawn/Hannah
Volunteer coordinator	Kim
Finance/Grants	Cameron
Enrichment	Tom/James