

**DISCOVERY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
COMMUNITY MEETING
SANDBURG/DCS COMMONS, WEDNESDAY 9/19/2012, 6:30 PM**

WELCOME Presented by Cris P. (crispederson@comcast.net)

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT presented by Heather F. (hfrazier@lwsd.org)

- Progress is being made on the construction. The kids are safe and organized and are learning their routines.
- The lunch room system is functioning well. Will be working on a sink for the kids to use before lunch; currently we're going through a lot of wipes. The kids are doing well on food scrap recycling.
- In response to a question regarding accessibility to the outdoors:
 - Once the play field is ready, it will be the primary outdoor space (in contrast to the landscaped area behind the building).
 - The natural playground is crowded at the moment, and more staff is in place to ensure safety.
 - At the beginning of the year, access to the outdoors had been restricted to get everyone used to safe entrances and routines. Outdoor access will now be possible for teachers and classes, but will still be restricted from outdoor entry to ensure safety.
- Parent drop-by in the classroom is discouraged so as to avoid interrupting classes. When arriving at school, sign in with the main office, then proceed to DCS to get badge from Janet's office. There is no need to sign in again there (other than to record hours). Alumni need to also fill out a volunteer application (which is different from the parent one and available from Janet), sign in, and wear badges while on school grounds.

TEACHERS' REPORT Presented by Carol F. (CFletcher@lwsd.org) and Julie G. (JGuest@lwsd.org)

- Comments were kept brief since curriculum nights are scheduled for the following evening. Thanked Heather for smooth operation of the school in the early weeks.

TREASURERS' REPORT Presented by Jeff B. (jlb@houseofdistraktion.com) and Andrew S. (rice.sutton@gmail.com)

- First round of checks has been deposited.
- We're insured.
- A more detailed report will be available next month.

ENRICHMENT

Friday Specials: Presented by Susan W. (susanandpaige@gmail.com)

- Susan thanks us all for the incredible amount of enthusiasm and support to get this first set of Friday Specials going.
- There will be some details to be worked out due to the new venue and new timing (due to change of recess time).
- Sessions will be approx. 45 minutes.
- Thursday 9/27 at 3:00 will be the pitch to the students to help get them sorted into tracks.
 1. Aeronautics (Brandon T. – Brandon.turpin@gmail.com): Aerospace, airplanes, spaceships, etc.
 2. Paper Crafting (Nicki L. – dcs@learnlaughplay.org): Needs paper donations: scrapbook paper, gift wrap, sliding paper cutter (labeled). Drop off in Janet's office by Oct. 1st.
 3. Junior Forest Ranger (Kari S. – kariscully@yahoo.com). The Mountaineers will be coming in to talk about hiking safety. Students will be making interpretive markers for the trails in Big Finn Hill Park (will need permission slips for a hike). The Audubon society will come in on the last week.
 4. Sewing (Tracy P. – tracyplank@gmail.com). Students will make a drawstring bag and a pillow. Could use donations of fabric. Please drop off in a box in Janet's office. Also will need machines and people who know how to use them.

Since we were talking about Boeing for the Aeronautics Friday Special and there are a number of Boeing employee parents at DCS, Jim S. (jsalmon@comcast.net) talked about Boeing matching donations and how to sign up to get benefits for DCS. Contact Jim for more information.

Winter Event: Presented by Yvonne B. (bakers.inbox@gmail.com)

- Winter Event is the DCS art display and stage performance event.
- This year it will be held on March 8th.
- Volunteers are needed, and next month the volunteer list will be at the community meeting.
- Yvonne is looking for co-chair for this event.
- Stage management experience is a plus, but not a requirement.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Presented by Susan V. (vosslerm1@comcast.net) and Setty P. (tslpalazzo@comcast.net)

- School supply donation for Hopelink was a success.
- The coin drive charity has not yet been chosen for this year (previous years have been Water for People and Room to Read). Open for suggestions. The money jug will be set up in the DCS office for kids to donate.
- Are trying to get Soles for Souls going for this year in collaboration with Sandburg. Hold on to your used shoes.
- The Unicef boxes will be available at Halloween for kids who are interested.
- The Food Lifeline event will be in November. It's a food warehouse in Shoreline where kids age 6+ can be involved. Can volunteer as a family for whatever task is needed on that day. The date is **Saturday November 3rd from 1-4**. We have room for 50 people. In case of large response, preference will be given to current students and families.
- We will be making Kirkland Interfaith Transitions in Housing (KITH) Thanksgiving baskets in November.
- In December we'll be doing a gift drive for Hopelink.
- In the spring we'll make sack lunches for local shelter.
- March is "Helping the Homeless Month". We'll have kids pack sack lunches for a local shelter. Per a long-standing tradition, we'll prepare and serve a meal for a downtown women's shelter. ****Chairperson needed for this event****
- In April we'd like to do a project to celebrate Earth Day – details not yet decided.
- In May/June we collect money for End Summer Hunger for Hopelink.
- Please collect the following items throughout the year:
 - Hotel sized shampoos/lotions
 - Gently used household items
 - Gently used adult clothing (pls email Susan to donate)

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Fall Event Presented by Jessica S. (jessicasoltani@gmail.com)

This fall will be a family mini golf event. Each family will make their own mini golf hole, and then we will go around and play on the course. It is suggested that the Olders might man the "snack shack" to help raise money for their outdoor camp. More detailed information to follow soon.

Parents' Night Out (PNO) Presented by Christi D. (christi.damico@comcast.net)

This is an occasional event where DCS parents gather at someone's home in an evening to socialize (without children). Next one is TBD. Note that the community building chairs should be the ones to handle communication about the event.

Hospitality

Thanks to Jennifer P. (jenandmat@msn.com) for taking over the Hospitality position.

COMMUNICATIONS

Presented by Tom C-F (tchwojko@mac.com)

- The recent issues with email lists have been due to a hard drive crash on the server. We've moved to a new hosting service with virtual server, and everything seems to be working now.

- Constant Contact still remains to be updated; will be discussed at next community meeting.
- Dawn G. is looking for additional volunteers to become trained to edit the DCS and Sandburg PTSA websites and/or tandem calendars. Contact Dawngrant@gmail.com for more information about the steps required and training dates.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR Presented by Shelley G. (surfdawave@comcast.net)

Some key open positions include:

- Middles – Science Helper needed (set up and clean up materials, flexible on days)
- Youngers – need 2nd room rep
- Spring Camp could use one more co-chair
- DCS event photographer for Olders
- For more info on these or other volunteer positions, contact Shelley or Shannon S. (sglschill@frontier.com)

FUNDRAISING Presented by James W. (jweinrod@gmail.com)

Not much to report yet. Working on:

1. Getting grants for DCS
2. Ink cartridge recycling (box in Janet's office)
3. EScrip program with PCC, needs minimum order of \$500
4. Investigating other more general eScrip programs.
5. It was suggested to look into putting an Amazon shopping link onto the DCS site

Box Tops for Education

Cariann C. (carianncarlson@gmail.com) and Leah M. (leahjohn1031@gmail.com) are taking on Box Tops for Education. The box tops form will be sent home to get the kids involved in collecting and filling it out, or parents can also just send in the box tops. Suggest setting a community goal to motivate the kids. Deadline for submission is March 1st. There are also ebox tops available via additional retailers. Cariann will send more info.

OLD BUSINESS Presented by Cris P.

Olders' Camp/Environmental Education

- Brief History: In previous years, 6th graders would participate in Outdoor Ed environmental education. With the reconfiguration, Sandburg has canceled the program completely, but DCS will continue with an Olders outdoor education program, as decided in the April community meeting.
- At the October steering meeting (Thursday 10/4 in the library), we will discuss the location, fundraising, etc. and make the decision on how to proceed. Please come to this meeting! Amy D. will send an email with the history, cost projections, etc. Laura R. will spearhead the conversation at that meeting. We want to set precedent with a sustainable plan for the future.

PTSA Presented by Setty P. (tslpalazzo@comcast.net)

PTSA Dance Marathon Fundraiser

The PTSA fundraiser asks for donations of \$85/student, and is the only fundraiser of the year. Donate what you can. This fundraiser culminates with the dance marathon on September 28th, followed by a family dance party at 6:30 that evening. This money funds the enrichment activities, arts supplies, and K-5 art enrichment in the classrooms, assemblies, field trip buses, teacher stipends, third grade swim, craft fair and more. This fundraising benefits all the kids in Sandburg and DCS, so participation is encouraged.

Question: Informer

It appears that some new families are not getting the Informer. Janet will follow up. The Informer is also available on the website: <http://www.lwsd.org/school/sandburg/PTSA/Announcements/Pages/Informer.aspx>