

Discovery Charter School Board Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2023

I. The Meeting was called to order by Lisa Gonzalez at 6:36 in the Barn!

Lisa Gonzalez, Kelly Hunt, Lori Knox-Lindsay, Miranda Wilkening, Mylese Tucker, Jessica Lynch, and Suzanne Radzik were present. Ryan Schoffemeer and Tiana Clark were not present.

Discovery-Ernesto Martinez was present.

Gabriele Group-Kiki was present and Alan Gabriele attended via phone.

II. The Mission and Vision were read by Kelly Hunt Vander Vliet.

Our Mission: Discovery Charter School will foster in its students the passion and curiosity necessary for life long learning. Students will develop the ability to think critically, communicate effectively and excel academically. Through and integrated, place-based curriculum, our students will become stewards of their environment and community.

Our Vision: Discovery is a school community that nurtures the idea of how to think and not what to think.

III. Financial Report Financial Report reviewed by Alan Gabriele. Discovery ended the year with a small surplus. He noted we will need to watch the budget closely and have good cash management over the next 6 months to continue with a surplus.

IV. Consent Agenda

Lisa Gonzalez moved to approve the consent agenda, Mylese Tucker Seconded. Unanimously approved.

V. No Public comment

VI. Items for Discussion

I. Strategic Planning Session The board brainstormed and worked to create a revised vision statement

II. The revised vision statement will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting.

IV. School Calender

Mylese Tucker moved to adopt Option 2 for the 2023-2024 School Calender. Suzanne Radzik seconded. Unanimously approved.

V. There was a brief discussion of the Sexual Harassment Policy. We will wait to hear back from our lawyer and will vote on addition/changes in February.

VI. Conflict Resolution Policy. Ernesto found gaps in Discovery's existing policy and looked at other school's policies. Changes include verbiage noting that a parent, Superintendent and Board will decide if a sit down meeting is needed in the event of a conflict. Also verbiage needs to be added stating that the Superintendent can designate legal counsel to represent the school

and the Board's decision is final. Updates will be made to the current policy and a vote to approve will be made in February.

VII. Food Service Management Company Request for Proposal. Existing contract is up, so the food contract is once again up for bids.

VII. No matters for approval

VIII. School Report.

- Ernesto Martinez reported that enrollment is at 561, down slightly because several families moved away.
- Looking at roof replacements bids.
- Looking into cleaning service vs. hiring someone in-house to clean.
- Parking lot lights will be converted to LED.
- Upgrading interior lights. Lisa Gonzalez asked about grants for lighting upgrades but no one is aware of any.
- Ernesto Martinez and Mylese Tucker will attend the Portage Kiwanis Club weekly breakfast to promote the school.
- Debra Weller is on vacation. Discipline report will be given in February.

IX. Working Group Updates

I. Development

- Looking at locations for billboards
- Will have scheduled tours up until Kindergarten Lotto. 53 applications as of today.
- Sending mailers to pre-schools
- Harvard intern is creating marketing materials
- Valpo parks sponsorship
- Banner in Valpo Y and Portage Y
- Sponsoring State Park Little League
- Looking for sponsorship in Michigan City

II. Finance Nothing to report

III. Policy Nothing to report

IV. Diversity and Equity will be scheduling their first meeting

X. PAC Update

- Purchased pullovers for Coaches
- 200 pairs of shoes donated in the shoe drive
- Give back Night at El Salto's in Chesterton on January 31
- Canvas and Chocolate – a work of Heart for Valentine's Day. \$15 kits
- Staff snack day is Feb 1st

XI. No recognition

XII. Lisa Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 7:18 pm