

Discovery Charter School Board Meeting Minutes, October 12, 2022

- I. The Meeting was called to order by Lisa Gonzalez at 6:36.

Lisa Gonzalez, Kelly Hunt, Ryan Shoffelmeer, Lori Knox-Lindsay, Tiana Clark and Mylese Tucker, present. Jessica Lynch attended via telephone. Suzanne Radzik was not present.

Discovery-Ernesto Martinez and Debra Weller present

Gabriele Group-Allan Gabriele present

- II. The Mission and Vision were read by Tiana Clark

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. He noted Discovery had an excellent quarter, moving into a surplus cash position and exceeding the 3 month budget for revenue. This is largely due to the generous contributions from PAC.

Ryan Shoffelmeer commented on the Ratings Direct report. Alan Gabriele noted that it looks discouraging because Discovery is leveraged quite heavily, but the school is in good shape because of strong management, consistent governance and stable growth.

- IV. Consent Agenda

Lisa moved to approve the consent agenda, Kelly Hunt Vander Vliet seconded. The motion unanimously passed .

- V. No public comment

- VI. Items for discussion

- a. Working groups

Development: Lori Knox-Lindsay, Taiana Clark, Lisa Gonzalez and Kelly Hunt Vander Vliet.

Finance: Suzanne Radzik, Mylese Tucker, and Lori Knox-Lindsay.

Policy: Mylese Tucker, Ryan Schoffelmeer, Jessica Lynch and Lisa Gonzalez

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion: Lori Knox-Lindsay (Co-chair), Tiana Clark (Co-chair), Jessica Lynch, and Lisa Gonzalez.

Mylese will serve as Secretary.

- b. Teacher Winter Luncheon

Luncheon is set for Wednesday, December 7th, 10:30-1:30. Lori Knox-Lindsay will call restaurants for menus and prices.

c. Front Entryway Project

Ernesto Martinez discussed adding a second entry point into the school which would include glass double doors. The project should cost no more than \$20K for the three stages of the job. Lisa Gonzalez mentioned the project is important for added security in the building, as this is a question that comes up often in the school tours.

Lisa Gonzalez moved to approve the project, Ryan Schoffemeer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Matters for approval

- Strategic Planning with National Charter School Institute. Strategic planning was post-poned this week because the consultant from National Charter Institute was unavailable. Mark Weinberg from NCI recommended another facilitator. Mylese Tucker moved to approve working with a consultant for strategic planning and Lori Knox-Lindsay seconded. The motion unanimously passed.
- Ernesto Martinez discussed retention bonuses available for staff this year. Staff members will receive \$155 per year of service at Discovery. Lisa Gonzalez moved to approve retention bonuses, Mylese Tucker seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

VIII. Ernesto Martinez and Debra Weller discussed the School Report

- 569 Enrollment
- Lt. Dickey of the Porter Police Dept. is working on pre-planned response calls. The Police Officers will receive key fobs in case they need access to the building. They will familiarize themselves with the building to be prepared in case of an emergency.
- Ernesto Martinez attended a School Safety Conference on September 26th and 27th. Discovery is already compliant with many of the safety recommendations, we just need to tweak some of the protocols. Security cameras will be labeled by location with associated door numbers. Door numbers will be labeled on the inside as well as the outside. Parking lot lights will be replaced with LED lights, alarm company stickers will be placed on every door in addition to No Firearms stickers. The locking devices on the doors will be removed to be ADA compliant. Discovery will start using the SchoolGuard App. It is like a panic button on the phone that sends an alert to all law enforcement, alerting them of a situation. The app is available for staff members to use on their phones.
- Discovery staff has lots of opportunities for professional development including Get More Math Part II, Lunch and Learn on Mental Health, a presentation concerning the LGTBQ community is scheduled, discussing verbiage and other pertinent information.
- Halloween Parade is set for 9 am on October 31st
- Red Ribbon Week is October 24th -28th.

Tiana Clark asked how IXL is used and Debra Weller explained that the students use it both in school and at home. There is a math support group for 3rd -8th graders after school, based on their I learn scores.

Lori Knox-Lindsay had concerns about reading. Mrs. Weller explained that kids will take ILearn in 2nd grade. If they pass, they won't need to take it in 3rd grade and kids who need help will be identified early. Lori expressed the need to get something going in Middle School for reading help that would target a strategy to help with comprehension and study skills.

Lisa Gonzalez asked about a no-cost tutoring program after school and would like to look into bringing that back. High Ability students could possibly be involved in peer-tutoring.

IX. Working Group updates

a. Development:

- Ernesto Martinez reported that the first coat of paint is up on the barn and HVC is to be finished next week. The project could possibly be finished by the next Board Meeting.
- Lisa Gonzalez reported that school tours had started, there is and upcoming Chamber night and Kindergarten applications for the lottery start on November 1st.

b. Finance: No report.

c. Policy: No report.

X. PAC Report

Kelly Hunt Vander Vliet reported on the success of the Fall Festival resulting in approximately \$17K in profit. Other upcoming events are the Pie selling fundraiser and a bon fire on November 6th at Rogers Lakewood Park. PAC will be holding an election at the next meeting.

XI. Recognition

- Lisa Gonzalez recognized and thanked every brave soul who sat in the Dunk Tank at Fall Fest.
- Kelly Hunt Vander Vliet thanked all the volunteers who helped out at Fall Fest.

XII. Next Meeting November 16, 2022. Executive Session starts at 5:30 for Strategic Planning and regular meeting will start at 6:30.

Lisa Gonzalez adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.