



Governance Council Minutes

Discovery Charter School, in cooperation with parents and the community, will empower students to become healthy, high achieving, life-long learners through the exploration of science and technology.

February 21, 2012

In Attendance:

Christine Adams- President

Lacy George-Parent

Sue Sewell-Principal

Melody Tadych-Parent

Tonya Roberts- Parent/President Elect

Dawn Loomis-Vierck-Teacher

Kathy Sanders, Secretary/Community Member

Katie Meister-School District

Jeannie Coughlin-Teacher

Peggy First-Teacher

Meeting called to order at 6:19 PM

Minutes approved by Tonya Seconded by Peggy

No public comment

- 1. New Members-** Suzy and Dawn were recommended to take over as teacher reps. Melody; Christine and Kathy's terms are up. There were two applicants for the new parent positions: Laura Reetz and Stephanie Beaver. The council is in need of a new community member yet. A request was placed in the paper. Kathy agreed to fill in until a new member can be found. Stephanie attended the meeting as a guest.
- 2. Updates- Sue and Teachers**

Event Planning Committee

The hike at Astico Park was a hit. Plans are on to do a bat presentation in the spring in the evening. The spring clean up will be April 28th from 1-3 at the school grounds. May 8th from 6-7:30 pm is the Open house. It was suggested to have children's activities set up close to the Charter classrooms, which would allow time for parents to visit with the teachers. May 4th is the meeting for the incoming kindergarten students. Kathy will make invitations to send out to the school board members and key leaders in the community. Lacy will make back-to-back fliers advertising the open house and cleanup to go parents of current students. The teachers will distribute the fliers and Sue will update the Discovery Charter School informational brochure flier for distribution at the open house. Sue will also make a flier for the 4K sites advertising the open house. The events committee will meet on March 20th 5:45 in Jeanie's room.

Classroom Updates

Kindergarten is doing shadow observations. There is a strong focus on literacy and math. First grade is doing woodland creature stories. 2nd grade is working with a compost farm and blogged about it. They are also working on matter. The blogs are being used as an assessment



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tool. Students are really using the netbooks, and learning how to use the spell check. There is a lot of multitasking going on with students self selecting activities and tasks. They also are working as peer helpers. Third grade is starting the podcasts on native birds. They are using *Storybird* to write about wishes and publishing their stories online. In science, they are studying the human body. They are working on multiplication in math.

Three teachers are attending the National STA in Indianapolis. Kathy will work with Sue to get an article in the paper about charter school enrollment and how students are chosen to participate in DCS. Suzy applied for a couple of garden grants and is waiting to hear the results. Special community events will go out through Sue's mass e-mail and put on the DCS website.

2. **Green Team**

The team continues to work on recycling. Prices are down a little, but they continue to take the cans in.

3. **Strategic Plan**

Sue has developed a goal to work on her background knowledge as it relates to the goals and curriculum of the Charter School. She thought it would be helpful if the charter governance council would make suggestions for other goals that the council would like to see her meet. Sue is working on this as part of her professional PDP and her administrative review. The strategic plan will be part of the report to the School Board in August. It was decided that her professional development plan should be part of her evaluation plan rather than putting it in the Strategic Plan. DCS will participate in the Green Charter School Network, but postpone application for Green School status at this time. The process and requirements have become more involved. The council and DCS staff will begin planning for writing another dissemination grant. Christine offered to work on grant writing. Tonya will make changes to the Strategic Plan for the final copy to be voted on at the March meeting. The plan will be shared via e-mail and the wiki with council members. A suggestion was made to consider expanding DCS summer school opportunities.

4. **Approval of New Parent Council Members**

The council voted unanimously to appoint Laura Reetz and Stephanie Beaver as new parent representative charter council members pending their acceptance.

Motion to adjourn by Dawn at 7:20PM. Seconded by Jeannie

Next Regular Meeting-March 20, 2011

- *Invite Steve Sobiek*
- *Vote on Strategic Plan-Review*
- *Professional Development Plan for Sue*
- *Community Outreach*