



# 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.*

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**March 20, 2012**

**In Attendance:**

*Sue Sewell-Principal*

*Melody Tadych-Parent*

*Tonya Roberts- Parent/President*

*Dawn Loomis-Vierck-Teacher*

*Kathy Sanders, Secretary/Community Member*

*Suzy Zietlow-Teacher*

*Jeannie Coughlin-Teacher*

*Katie Meister-School District Member*

*Peggy First-Teacher*

*Laura Reetz-Parent*

*Lacy George-Parent*

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**Meeting called to order at 6:24 PM**

**Minutes approved by Lacy, Seconded by Tonya**

No public comment

1. Welcome to Paul Vande Hei- potential community member. Discussion on changing the meeting date to another Tuesday. Tonya will check with Stephanie for her availability.
2. **Updates- Sue and Teachers**

Kindergarten students are growing Amaryllis bulbs. Peggy wrote and was awarded a Pet in the Classroom Grant. First Grade is working on woodland creatures unit. They are following up with learning logs for their research and will pull out facts to create animal reports. The reports will focus on the physical characteristics, habitats and species details. The final product will be integrated with student artwork. Student writing is scaffolded to build on curriculum at later grades. Dawn has a high school assistant to work with the students on their writing. The student assistants are coordinated with the guidance program. Council members thought it would be a good idea to expand the student assistance program. Second Grade is continuing to work on non-fiction writing. Publishing will look different based on how the students choose to organize their products. Science is focusing on energy. They had an author visit that focused on food chains. The charter school is planning a trip to the woods. Suzy would like to start stream monitoring at Astico, or similar site in the future. The third graders planted seeds. Everything is up and out in the greenhouse. Students have been independently watering the plants. Bird podcasts are beginning with recording starting. The third grade is also working on Photosynthesis. The planters are out and ready for plants.

3. **Event Planning Committee** met on 3/20/12. They will have activities ready for students for the open house. Suggestion was made to potentially have a family night at the garden. The food



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service director, Brenda Meier, asked DCS to coordinate harvest from community garden with school food service meals. Suggestions were made about what crops would be preferred.

### 2. **Green Team**

The team continues to work on recycling. No further updates.

### 3. **Strategic Plan**

Reviewed strategic plan draft. The charter contract will need to be renewed by the School Board in 2014. Wording of the plan was changed to the following: *prepare to expand DCS to grades 4 and 5 after 2014*. Tonya moved to accept the strategic plan. Kathy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### 4. **Principal Professional Development**

Sue said that science should be integrated with engineering (STEM) along the lines of *Project Lead the Way*. Sue is looking to join a science professional group. Sue will write a PDP with her goals. She is looking for recommendations from the council members as to what should be included in the plan.

Motion passed unanimously to accept Paul Vande Hei as the new community member.

Motion to adjourn by Melody at 7:28PM. Seconded by Tonya.

Motion passed.

***Next Regular Meeting- April 17<sup>th</sup> , 2012***

- *Steve Sobiek will attend*
- *Professional Development Plan update from Sue*
- *Community Outreach*