



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.

November 15, 2011

In Attendance:

Kathy Sanders, Secretary/Community Member

Melody Tadych-Parent

Jeanine Coughlin-Teacher

Dawn Loomis-Vierck-Teacher

Sue Sewell-Principal

Christine Adams- President

Peggy First-Teacher

Lacy George-Parent

Meeting called to order at 6:17 PM

Minutes approved by Lacy Seconded by Peggy

No public comment

1. Updates- Sue and Teachers

Kindergarten went to Aldo Leopold Center. They are working on probability and number writing in math. Peggy attended the math training. Students observed a decomposing pumpkin to note changes. Pumpkins were measured as well. They also made a soup from the produce they grew. Parent conferences were on Monday. They took a trip to the library to learn about African animals. Smokey the bear visited as part of their fire safety review.

First grade estimated pumpkin measurements and number of seeds. The next day they checked their estimates by counting the seeds and doing actual measurements. The math activity was correlated to an Everyday Math extension. They are doing a lot of reading and working on personal narratives. They have memorized 2 songs for the Community Sing. They are studying the elements of nonfiction books, including table of contents and glossary. Several families participated in SPICE night.

Second grade has donated the fish to Mrs. Sewell. They are creating a new habitat focusing on lizards and potentially snakes. They will be performing their hibernation skits. They are publishing personal narratives and then will move into a poetry unit. They are doing really well in Math. The teachers felt it was due to the switch to Everyday Math.

Third Grade has been doing WKCE testing and a positive atmosphere was set. They are working on classification and will be starting with leaves. They harvested the babies from the spider plants in the library and are working with fertilizer and planting. They researched the fertilizer possibilities for better plant growth. They are using dialog in their writing. They are using questioning, connections and inferring with the read aloud book, Wonderstruck by Brian



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Selznick. There are many science connections in the book. They are also doing a celery experiment.

Sue spoke with the DPI EE Consultant, Victoria about changing requirements for “Green Schools” She will update the school on any possible grants.

2. **Green Team**

Nov. 14 was *America Recycles Day*. The committee planned several activities to promote recycling. The Green Team concept is being implemented K-12 in The Columbus School District.

3. **Event Planning Committee**

The committee brainstormed what could have been improved for the SPICE night event. It will be important to submit outside publicity for the events. They are planning several family oriented activities including a Winter Hike on January 28th at Astico Park. In March, they are looking at bringing in the Bat Scientist from Bat Conservation of Wisconsin. Jeanne is investigating. They are looking at potential field trips to the Olbrich and the Discovery Center at the UW.

4. Sue did a slideshow presentation on Outreach and summarizing DCS projects for the community. The slideshow was originally presented at the WAEE Conference. It is an excellent overview highlighting the innovative DCS program. It would be good to use this to present to a wider audience in the local community and to share with DPI Charter Consultants.

5. Kathy will contact Steve Sobieck about coming to the February Meeting to discuss DCS and Charter partnerships. 2nd grade teacher presented to the K-12 Science committee about the strategic plan proposal to expand the Committee will pull together language for Strategic plan and then bring it back to the DCS council. Kathy will send out a doodle to the Strategic Plan Committee. Christine made a motion not to hold a meeting in December so the next regular meeting will be Jan. 17th. The main focus will be the strategic plan. Christine will share grants that she has researched.

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

Next Regular Meeting-Jan. 17, 2011

- *Review ideas for new Charter Council Members*
- *Strategic Plan-Review*