



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.

September 18th, 2012

In Attendance:

Sue Sewell-Principal

Suzy Zietlow-Teacher

Tonya Roberts- Parent/President

Katie Meister-School District Member

Katie Kastenson Schmidt - Teacher

Laura Reetz-Parent

Peggy First-Teacher

Paul Vande Hei – Community Representative

Lacy George-Parent

Meeting called to order at 6:18 PM.

Minutes approved by Laura, seconded by Paul.

No public comment

1. Updates- Sue and Teachers

- a. **Green Team - will meet this Thursday.**
- b. **Event Committee - Met and set the fall clean-up date: Sunday, October 7th from 1-4 PM. The rain date will be Sunday, October 14th from 1-4 PM. The committee decided to plan an Astico winter family activity (similar to last year) as well as a spring clean-up day.**
- c. **Teachers**
 - i. **Peggy – Students are practicing classroom routines. They are working on a living and non-living science unit. They have also used the hand-lenses to explore the schoolyard gardens.**
 - ii. **Dawn – Students are also practicing classroom routines. They have been working on Spelling, Math, Writing and Responding to Reading. They have discussed features of non-fiction texts and will soon be getting into a non-fiction writing unit. Students are working on gaining independence in the classroom.**



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- iii. **Katie – Students have been working on establishing Reading and Writing Workshop routines. They have begun Spelling. They have a bearded dragon classroom pet as well as various aquatic animals. Students have been learning about caring for the pets. Students have been making observations of schoolyard.**
 - iv. **Suzy – Students have established Reader’s and Writer’s Workshop routines. They have begun math and are learning how to care for the classroom pets. In science they have been working on Childhood Maps (places they play outside.) They will soon begin a Narrative Writing unit connected to these maps. DCS will be harvesting garden produce soon and the classes will prepare a Harvest Soup and possibly a chili in the next few weeks.**
2. **Annual Report – A journalist (Terri Peterson) from the Beaver Dam newspaper visited DCS today to capture DCS students in action. Sue shared some of the annual report information with Terri.**

Sue shared the PowerPoint presentation with the Council she gave to the School Board in August. Sue mentioned that the DCS Budget Committee possibility will need more discussion to get School Board approval.

Sue went to the No Teacher Left Inside Institute over the summer (funded through dissemination grants received by a Charter school up north.) Sue is hoping to host a NTLII here at DCS in the summer of 2014 (with the aid of receiving a dissemination grant.) DCS could write in the request for a Via Com system through this potential grant. Victoria Rynberg would assist DCS in writing the grant (due the end of April.) Ms. Rynberg is coming in mid-October to meet with Sue regarding our ideas about this dissemination grant. Tonya suggested examining our previous grant applications in helping us with the grant application process. Sue will share information at a future meeting regarding this grant’s requirements. Sue mentioned a possible source of funding: deeming the DCS woods a School Forest. Sue will let the Council know if there is anything we can do to help Victoria with the grant application process as well as the pursuance of a School Forest. Sue will update Council in November. Sue suggested that CES pursue becoming a Green Ribbon School.

The School Board has inquired about expanding the Charter school into 4th and 5th grade.

Laura gave an update on the Facilities Committee happenings.

The Council decided to revisit the discussion of potential grants to help expand the Charter School to 4th and 5th grade.

All CES teachers are using Curriculum Companion to document ELA curriculum. Current Master Schedule allows all DCS teachers a common planning time, daily.



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- 3. Committees – Tonya distributed a Committee Member database sheet that Suzy will update and send out via email. Tonya suggested that the Council Recruitment begin soon. Tonya will get the Document Committee meeting scheduled soon as well.**
- 4. Principal PDP – Sue’s PDP is completed. She will update the Council annually in April/May regarding her PDP.**

Motion to adjourn by Dawn at 7:24 PM. Seconded by Katie K-S.

Motion passed.

Next Regular Meeting-

- *DCS Budget Committee*
- *Document Updating*
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