



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.

Date: June 18th, 2013

In Attendance:

Sue Sewell – Principal

Melody Tadych – Parent

Tonya Roberts – Parent/President

Suzy Zietlow – Teacher

Lacy George – Parent

Paul Vande Hei – Community Representative

Meeting called to order at 6:20 PM.

March minutes approved by Lacy, seconded by Paul.

Motion passed.

No public comment.

1. **Dissemination grant** – Sue gave some updates regarding our grant application. Sue has consulted an attorney to help with some of the paperwork. The grant would be for \$125,000. We will find out in August if we've received the grant. The monies, if received, would be used to host a *No Teacher Left Inside Institute* in the summer of 2014, which would provide professional development for DCS and CES teachers as well as other teachers around the area related to quality science instruction at the elementary level.
2. **Student Enrollment** – Sue informed the group about the student enrollment for DCS 2013-2014. There are waitlists at all grade levels except for those entering 3rd grade. Two spots opened up in 3rd grade and were filled with students on the waitlist. In Kindergarten enrollment is at 23 with 6 on the waitlist. There are 22 enrolled in 1st grade with two students on the waitlist. There are currently 22 students enrolled in 2nd grade and four students on that waitlist. Sue suggested having Open House next year in April closer to the enrollment date to introduce new families to Charter.
3. **Updates** –
 - a. **Suzy** – Suzy informed the group that she attended the STEM Forum in St. Louis in May. She gained a lot of information and resources specifically related to technology and engineering instruction which she will use in her classroom, the summer school classes (Garden Environment, Elementary Engineering) and share with the other Charter Teachers. DCS made around \$270 dollars in donations from plants. There were some plants left over that were composted. The sale was very well received and many positive comments were heard from Columbus School District staff as well as from many community members.
 - b. **Sue** – Sue mentioned that the City of Columbus is interested partnering with DCS in energy related activities and initiatives. Tonya suggested that the Council revive the



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Community Partnerships Committee of DCS to work with the City of Columbus. Sue mentioned that we may still pursue deeming the DCS Woods a School Forest and we will need to contact Kurt Hanson (the woods owner) if we pursue this. DCS Council members were encouraged to pass along any energy related ideas/projects as she will meet monthly with City Council members regarding the energy initiatives.

- a. **Strategic Planning** – The Council agreed it needs to revisit the goals and progress made to prepare for the annual report.
2. **Fund Raising** – The Council discussed possible fund raising projects including selling reusable green bags, selling greenhouse plants and hosting a fund raising event. The Event Committee will continue this discussion at its next meeting. The Council also discussed pursuing a Culver's Night where DCS families and Council members would volunteer their time serving customers at Culvers and in return receive a portion of the profits.
3. **Annual Report** – On July 8th Sue will give the DCS annual report to school board. Sue will send out plans for the report to Council members prior to the BOE meeting. She will update the BOE on our Strategic Plan outcomes as well our application for a Dissemination Grant.
4. **Green and Healthy Schools** – Peggy and Sue attended a Green and Healthy Schools event. They came back with some ideas regarding water and energy conservation that could be a building wide initiative led by DCS (water bottle filling station, etc.) Building funds will be used for some energy updates at CES and CMS within the next year or so. This could possibly be connected to the efforts with Community Partnerships and the City of Columbus. Green and Healthy schools will be starting an online program where students and schools can gain points for energy conservation and tracking usage. Tonya mentioned that Conserve High School (in Land 'o Lakes) provides educational opportunities for High School students and teachers regarding conservation and preservation. She said it's privately funded and involves an application process. This would be an opportunity for DCS/CES teachers to gain more education in connection to any schoolwide energy initiatives/projects.

Motion to adjourn by Lacy at 7:11, seconded by Paul.

Motion passed.

Next Regular Meeting – Tuesday, July 16th 2013

- *Committee Updates*
- *Fundraising*
- *Strategic Plan Updates*
- *Annual Report Overview*