



# 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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**Date: November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**In Attendance:**

*Sue Sewell – Principal*

*Melody Tadych – Parent*

*Dawn Loomis-Vierck – Teacher*

*Katie Kastenson Schmidt – Teacher*

*Suzy Zietlow-Secretary – Teacher*

*Paul Vandei Hei – Community Member*

*Lacy George – Parent*

*Stephanie Beaver –Parent*

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**Meeting called to order at 6:22 PM by Sue.**

No public comment.

1. **Approve October Minutes** – Motion to approve by Dawn, seconded by Suzy. Motion passed.
2. **Dissemination Grant Activities/DPI Conference** – Sue discussed the Dissemination Grant conference December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at the Concourse in Madison. Sue will be attending on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Stephanie will attend on the 6<sup>th</sup>. DCS will not be required to present at this year's conference, however will next year to share accomplishments and activities related to the grant.
  - a. Victoria R. visited with Sue recently. Sue shared the general budget for the Dissemination Grant. There will be a visitation day with Wisconsin Innovative Schools Network (WISN) in February. The No Teacher Left Inside Institute will be held this summer at the Conserve School up north. DCS will be looking at an alternative to the PolyCom system (that's suggested to be purchased) within the grant that will be less expensive, but individual classrooms could utilize it on a daily basis. Victoria would like DCS to hire someone that is working through the Green School's Network to help the staff with the documentation of the curriculum and framework for inquiry based education. Victoria will be coming Friday (11/21/13) to discuss this with DCS staff. Katie will be attending the WISN state conference the last week of March. Funds from the Dissemination Grant will need to be spent by July 30<sup>th</sup> of 2014.
  - b. Sue brought up the need to make adjustments to the DCS Governance Council bylaws based on recommendations from DPI: the district superintendent should not be on the Charter Governance Council. Charter staff can be on the Council, but should not be voting members. Changes in bylaws would take effect in March when there would be recruitment for new members. The Governance Council would then exist as 4 parents and 2 community members (one of the 6 total would serve as a non-voting president). This would then eliminate the Community Member position on the Council. These changes will take effect Feb/March. Sue will clarify the specific date of recruitment and council member voting during next regular meeting. Paul made a motion to create a



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Council consisting of 6 members to take effect Feb/March. Seconded by Lacy, motion passed.

3. **Subcommittee Meeting Schedule** – Lacy moved to approve the meeting schedule, Paul seconded. Motion passed.
4. **Committee Membership Changes** – Katie K.S. will be on Event Planning and Community Partnerships committees. Katie K.S. suggested opening the committee memberships to DCS families (that aren't necessarily on the Governance Council.) Document Updating (Paul, Tonya, Sue, Suzy) will reform and work on updating and condensing information for council members. Paul suggested using Google docs to share and update information. Sue will get documents to Paul and he will upload them to be edited by Paul, Tonya, Sue and Suzy.
5. **Open House** – We will be having the annual DCS Open House on Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. This will give prospective families time to explore the program and enroll prior to the April 30<sup>th</sup> deadline and the night will also serve as the annual celebration of DCS student accomplishments. DCS will host the annual Greenhouse Plant Sale in May and will coordinate with the Event Planning Committee for a specific date that will also include a Family Event (Physics, S.P.I.C.E/etc.) that will be open to all CES/DCS families.
6. **Amazon Fund Raising** - Paul described using Amazon School Rewards Program as a fundraiser for DCS. Paul will discuss this with Chet and Sue to set up the fund account and email account for rewards and he will get update the Council at the next meeting.
7. **Green Team** – Melody shared that a water bottle filling station was installed at CES. The Green Team just completed a water bottle fundraiser (122 bottles ordered) and the Team used funds to purchase and install the station. The Green Team might have the water bottle fundraiser every year around this time. The Council discussed creating a sign to post above the filling station that recognizes the Green Team in its purchase. The Columbus PTO took over the recycling bins. The Green Team will be focusing on green efforts within the schools.

Motion to adjourn by Dawn at 7:27. Seconded by Suzy.

Motion passed.

## ***Next Regular Meeting-***

- ***Dissemination Grant Updates***
- ***Amazon Fundraising***
- ***Committee Updates***



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