

**Discovery Charter School
1100 Camino Biscay
Chula Vista, CA 91910**

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 17, 2019
5:30 p.m.
Discovery Charter School Auditorium

MINUTES

I. Opening Procedures

A. Called to Order at 5:30 p.m.

B. Roll Call

- a. Members Present: Rochelle Carroll, Vikki Viramontes, Terry McKearney
- b. Members Absent: Erin Richison, Morgan Appel
- c. Others Present: Neil MacGaffey, Sara Roa

C. Pledge of Allegiance

4th grade student Landon Garcia led the pledge of allegiance.

D. Presentation

Presentation given by 4th grade students Ivanna Espinoza, Landon Garcia, Gael Jasso, Isabela Martinez, Giana Zaragoza. Students presented the school implementation of the Sanford Harmony program. This is a program designed to build strong classroom communities through intentional relationship building.

II. Approve Agenda

Motion: McKearney Second: Viramontes Vote: MSCU

III. Approve Minutes from the September 12, 2019 Regular Board Meeting

Motion: McKearney Second: Viramontes Vote: MSCU

IV. Public Comment

A. Items on the Agenda: There were no Public Comments for Items on the Agenda.

B. Items not on the Agenda:

- Mrs. Rosanna Candelario asked Discovery Charter School (DCS) Board members if any steps have been taken in an attempt to keep current siblings together in the Dual Immersion program regardless of their zone status. Keeping families together at the same school should be a priority to the school.
- Third grade teacher, Carol Barry shared the importance of the Dual Immersion program and embracing bilingualism not only between English and Spanish but in other languages spoken at Discovery Charter. Ms. Barry also shared that for the

first time at Discovery, Dual Immersion students will present Science projects in Spanish and we will have bilingual judges at the next Science Fair.

- DCS will have a Smarty Plants assembly for K-3rd grade students in English and Spanish where students will take an interactive journey through plant adaptations, the water cycle, water conservation, animal habitats and changes in our climate.
- DCS teachers Mrs. Hernandez and Mrs. Baeza started an after school Spanish club where students can learn the conversational part of the language. DCS was selected to hold the first District wide gathering of Dual Immersion teachers and administrators to have the opportunity to exchange ideas, programs and expertise.
- Ms. Carpenter shared on behalf of Discovery Charter Teacher's Union (DCTU) that they had a successful first negotiation meeting with administration and they are looking forward to continued negotiations.

V. Principal's Report

- Mr. MacGaffey thanked 4th grade students and teachers for the excellent presentation about Sanford Harmony program.
- DCS enrollment currently is 891, and 918 including SDC Pre-K. Current attendance is excellent with 98.08% and second place in the district. DCS chronic absence was reduced from 4.4% last year to 2.5% this year.
- Mr. MacGaffey shared that DCS had the first Superintendent walkthrough and was very successful. Dr. Escobedo liked what students were doing in classrooms and was pleased with the systems in place.
- DCS started implementing IReady Math Intervention program.
- Mr. MacGaffey also shared the following:
 - He will present the Data Report Part II in December.
 - DCS started implementing the SWIS (School Wide Information) program to keep and provide data on students' social emotional behavior.
 - DCS teachers had a professional development with Roth Tellier on the Danielson Framework, a teacher evaluation process that also helps them grow.
 - DCS and DCTU had their first cordial and friendly negotiation session with good conversation and atmosphere.

VI. Budget Update for Discovery Charter and Discovery Charter Preschool

Principal Mr. MacGaffey presented DCS Board members and public with a proposed budget for 2019-20 school year for Discovery School and Preschool. He also reported that in September of every year the school gets a state report called unaudited actuals to help the school plan for 2019-20 year. In December DCS presents the first interim budget report, in March the second interim report, and in June the budget for the next year. He also presented DCS private preschool budget and informed that enrollment this year is lower than last year and that DCS Preschool is spending more than what we are taking in. This is a concern and the school will monitor closely. Another concern is that the DCS preschool needs to be modernized, implement new curriculum, and have staff attend professional growth development to maintain the kind of program the school has always had. The current budget does not have enough funds to have a line item for the growth to happen.

VII. School Safety Plan

Associate Principal John Greenwell presented 2019-2020 School Safety Plan which is a living document updated every year with experts from different law enforcement fields, DCS staff and CVESD personnel to improve safety for students, staff, and visitors.

VIII. Approve Consent Calendar

All items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered by the Board to be one action. There will be no discussion on these items prior to the time the Board votes on the motion unless members of the Board request specific items to be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar.

A. Approve travel to PROJECT BEST: Bilingual Educator Strategic Training

Location: Chula Vista Elementary School District Office

Dates: January 21st-22nd, 2020, and other dates to be determined

Funding Source: LCAP

Rationale: The CABE BEST Administrator Success Series supports the development of dual immersion leadership in California. Desired outcomes will be increased understanding, connecting, and applying the principles inherent in the CDE English Learner Roadmap; gain knowledge of effective program structure, curriculum, instruction, staff quality, and support and resources.

Cost: Registration is \$1,150 per participant. Two Discovery administrators will attend, total cost \$2,300.

B. Approve travel to San Diego South County CABE 2019 Mini-Conference

Location: Otay Ranch High School

Dates: November 9th, 2019

Funding Source: Title I

Rationale: Professional development for increasing the achievement of English Learner students by maximizing parent engagement and parent leadership in the Discovery school community.

Cost: Registration at \$100 per parent participant, for up to five participants, not to exceed \$500.

Motion: McKearney Second: Viramontes Vote: MSCU

IX. Approve \$1.00 per hour increase to the Discovery Noon Duty Attendant pay rate, from \$13.00 per hour to \$14.00 per hour.

Rationale: California minimum wage will continue to increase the next three years as follows:

- January 1, 2020 - \$13
- January 1, 2021 - \$14
- January 1, 2022 - \$15

Currently, the Discovery non-contract Noon Duty Attendant (NDA) hourly pay rate is \$13.00. Raising the hourly pay rate effective January 1, 2020 from \$13.00 to \$14.00 would be \$1.00 above the District contract NDA pay rate. This acknowledges the training and flexibility required of all Discovery non-contract NDA employees, and promotes employee retention.

Effective Date: January 1st, 2020

Cost: Approximate \$472.00 per month increase, including modest associated benefit increase.

Motion: Viramontes

Second: McKearney

Vote: MSCU

X. Approve installation of a new staircase on one side of the auditorium stage.

Rationale: This is important for the safety of any students using the stage by giving a second exit in case of a fire at the front of the stage, for example. Other district schools similar to Discovery have this second staircase. This will also help with stage accessibility for our drama students during the drama production put on each year.

Cost: Not to exceed \$7,500.

Funding Source: Unrestricted Charter Funds.

Motion: McKearney

Second: Viramontes

Vote: MSCU

XI. Board Communication

- Ms. Viramontes thanked everyone, especially 4th grade students, Mr. Greenwell for the School Safety Report, and Mr. MacGaffey for the Principal's report.
- Mr. McKearney wished everyone good luck and happy 2nd quarter.
- Ms. Carroll thanked everyone for the School Safety, Dual Immersion and Principal's report and the hard work that happens at Discovery. She attended a VAPA conference and is very proud of the level of art that happens at Discovery compared with other schools in the District. Ms. Carroll thanked everyone involved to help keep the arts program at DCS. Ms. Carroll also thanked Mr. MacGaffey for the budget report and reminded DCS Board of the fiduciary responsibility to keep the school running and to be mindful of the important work we do to support the school. One of the greatest dangers to charter schools in this time is if schools are not working in a responsible way to ensure student achievement, could result in a move to revoke the charter.

XII. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Motion: Viramontes

Second: McKearney

Vote: MSCU

The next Regular Meeting of the Discovery Charter School Board of Directors will be in the Discovery Auditorium on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

Rochelle Carroll, Board President

Sara Roa, Secretary to the Board