

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

Board of Directors
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 12, 2021
5:30pm
Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

I. Opening Procedures

A. Call to Order at 5:32pm

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Rochelle Carroll, Erin Richison, Morgan Appel

Members Absent: Vikki Castorena, Terry McKearney

Others Present: Principal Neil MacGaffey, Associate Principal Erika Alamo and MTSS Coordinator Melissa Moreno

C. Pledge of Allegiance led by Art Teacher Alicia Donovan

D. Welcome New DCS Teachers Annette Meza, Alita Acianoh, Liliana Hagewood and Amanda Tolliver were introduced by Principal Neil MacGaffey.

E. Recognition of 7th Grade Odyssey of the Mind Tournament and their success during the world competition in Miami by earning 1st place nationally in spontaneous, and 4th place in Long-Term Problem worldwide.

II. Approve Agenda

Motion: Appel Second: Richison Vote: MCSU

III. Approve Minutes from July 15, 2021 Regular Board Meeting

Motion: Richison Second: Appel Vote: MCSU

IV. Public Comment: Persons wishing to address the Board of Directors on any item on the agenda or non-agenda items should do so during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. No action or discussion shall be undertaken by the Board of Directors on any item not appearing on the posted agenda. Speakers are requested to limit their comments to no more than five (5) minutes.

A. Public Comment – Items on the Agenda: None

B. Public Comment – Items not on the Agenda: None

V. Principal's Report

- Congratulated each member of the Odyssey of the Mind for sharing their experience and their very successful performance during the 2021 OoTM Worlds in Miami, FL.
- Thanked all staff for always willing to do whatever is needed, whether it's in their job description or not.
- Dr. Escobedo's last campus visit will be tomorrow and we will wish him well on his retirement this Friday, August 13.
- Ms. Carroll and the new district's coordinators in math, science and VAPA came to see our school program and walk through some of the Fine Arts classrooms.
- Unfortunately, we've had 8 Covid cases since the start of the school year. There appears to be no connection between them (originated off campus). As a result, we have many students on an independent study contract.
- DCS is at #1 on the attendance rate for all the schools in the district.
- DCS is looking at students' writing assessments and data to determine the groups that teachers will establish and work in small groups.
- New partnership with Athlead is going really well. We have three P.E. classes with Athlead working side by side with DCS PE teacher Mrs. Mack.
- Morning drop off and afternoon pick up has gone smoothly.
- DCS Administration started classroom observations and are seeing students learning their routines and procedures. Lots of learning and engagement going on within the classroom.
- Nurse Anabel is doing a phenomenal job handling Covid case requirements and helping students on a daily basis.
- DCS hired a school counselor and five first grade aides who will be starting as soon as they are processed by HR. We also hired 3 new RtI aides and we are looking forward to having the additional support.
- PTC is having a fundraiser at Nuyo ice cream tonight until 8:00 o'clock. Join us!

VI. Public Hearing Independent Study Policy

Principal MacGaffey explained that due to new legislation, and new updates to the Ed code because of Covid, there is a need to not only update but also have our own board policies that are more specific to DCS. This is one of them. There will be some new procedures in place, especially for students out for longer terms due to quarantining, that should give our students more support.

VII. DCS Board Shall Consider Adoption of an Independent Study Policy in Accordance with the Requirements of Education Code Section 51747

Motion: Richison Second: Appel Vote: MCSU

VIII. Approve Independent Contractor Agreement with Vincent Pompei, Ed.D. Education Consultant

Cost: \$850

Funding Source: Title II

Location: Discovery Charter School

Rationale: On May 21st, 2021, Dr. Pompei provided Discovery staff the same virtual training for "Creating Safe & Inclusive Learning Environments for LGBTG & Gender Expansive Students" as coordinated by CVESD under its contract with Dr. Pompei. Since then, Discovery has been advised it needs its own contract with Dr. Pompei for Accounting to pay the invoice for the May 21st training.

Motion: Appel Second: Richison Vote: MCSU

IX. Approve Independent Contractor Agreement with MAXIM Healthcare Staffing for Hourly registered Nurse Services in Calendar Year 2021

Staffing Rates: \$53.28 per hour from January 1st through July 25th, 2021 and \$55.00 per hour from July 26th through December 31st, 2021.

Funding Source: Charter Fund

Location: Discovery Charter School

Motion: Richison Second: Appel Vote: MCSU

X. Approve Temporary Increase of Daily Rates for Certificated Substitute Employees

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In order to increase the pool of available certificated substitutes during in-person instruction, the DCS requests a temporary increase to substitute daily rates for regular-term and long-term certificated substitute employees. This increase would be effective August 5, 2021, and conclude at the end of the school year, June 3, 2022.

Discovery Charter School also requests temporary approval for site substitutes be assigned daily to address unfilled certificated assignments. The site substitute positions would start August 9, 2021 and conclude at the end of the school year June 3, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE:

Proposed daily rate increases are as follows. The cost will be paid from the state federal COVID-19 Relief funds.

<u>Certificated Substitute Position</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>New Rate</u>
Regular-Term	\$122	\$200
Long-Term (30 days+)	\$180	\$283
Site Substitute	Not applicable	\$283

Motion: Richison Second: Appel Vote: MCSU

XI. Discussion and Approval of the Following Student Services DCS Board Policies

- A. Uniform Complaint Policy and Procedure
- B. Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination, And Bullying Policy
- C. Educational Records and Student Information Policy
- D. Visitation and Volunteer Policy
- E. Suicide Prevention Policy

Motion: Appel Second: Richison Vote: MCSU

XII. Board Communication

- Dr. Appel shared that every month at Discovery is really an adventure and it's really something of which we should all be proud. He reminded us Isaac Newton's words "If I've been further, it's

because I've stood on the shoulders of giants" and the Odyssey of the Mind competition students do stand on a lot of the teachers, parents, administrators and Board members shoulders who care about them incredibly. He appreciates the daily effort of the challenges inherited in navigating the labyrinth of Covid. New teachers at Discovery are in for something amazing in their professional careers.

- Dr. Richison thanked all South Bay schools for starting in July so that other districts in the county could learn from them. She appreciates the students' voices and how they pivoted during the competition and what a great lesson it is to us because that is what the labyrinth of Covid is teaching us every day. Appreciates the new Independent Study Contract and how much work the teachers are putting to send work home. She realizes our students really missed a year of school and to be conscious when students let us know that school is hard. Thank you for filling those gaps.
- Ms. Carroll shared Discovery has really shown how to lead the pack and mentioned the fact that Mr. MacGaffey received a Leadership Award from the Superintendent this year. Part of this award was attributed to the incredible leadership it has taken to be ahead of the pack and how he has led this entire community in a way that has put kids first. Student based decision making is alive and well at Discovery. We are very proud of him. Being able to bring 3 new members of her team at the district office was really exciting to be able to show off all the wonderful work at Discovery. It is clear all staff at Discovery has the same message, purpose, work and vision and it is appreciated.

XIII. Adjournment: 6:31pm

Motion: Appel Second: Richison Vote: MCSU

The next regular meeting of the Discovery Charter School Board of Directors will be on Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 5:30pm.

Rochelle Carroll, Board President

Neil MacGaffey, Secretary to the Board