

Discovery Charter School

**1100 Camino Biscay
Chula Vista, CA 91910**

**Board of Directors
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
5:30pm
Auditorium**

MINUTES

I. Opening Procedures

A. Call to Order at 5:31pm

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Rochelle Carroll, Morgan Appel, Graciela Flores, Sara Roa

Members Absent: Harry Sevel

Others Present: Neil MacGaffey, Erika Alamo, Rubi Palomares

C. Pledge of Allegiance led by Lewhat Ghermai

D. Fall Sports Presentation

- Cross-Country Coach Mrs. Mack, along with several members of the cross-country team, presented to the Board and shared photos and video highlights from their recent season. Mrs. Mack provided an overview of the team's accomplishments, noting that several athletes placed within the top 20 positions. Students also spoke about their personal experiences and reflected on the skills and lessons they gained throughout the season.
- Coaches from AthLead Sports, accompanied by student representatives from the Soccer, Flag Football, and Volleyball teams, also presented to the Board. Students shared highlights from their seasons, discussed memorable moments, and talked about what they've learned through their participation.

II. Approve Agenda

(Action)

Motion: Appel

Second: Flores

Vote: UNANIMOUS

III. Approve Minutes from the December 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting (Action)

Motion: Flores

Second: Roa

Abstain: Appel

Vote: UNANIMOUS

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. Executive Director’s Report

(Information/Report)

- Mr. MacGaffey provided an update on Discovery’s recent kindness campaign launch and shared images of the mural he created for the school. He noted that an assembly and a series of related activities are planned for this semester, with participation from teachers and support staff.
- Mr. MacGaffey announced Discovery’s upcoming speech contest scheduled for next week and extended an invitation to the Board to attend the Drama Club’s production of Beauty and the Beast Jr.
- He noted that on February 4th, Discovery’s ILT will participate in a walkthrough at Arroyo Vista to observe their listening and speaking quality indicators. Arroyo Vista’s team will then visit Discovery later that afternoon to observe the same.
- Mr. MacGaffey shared that the Discovery PTC is organizing a Fun Run in February. He emphasized that the funds raised directly support classrooms and grade-level needs. He praised PTC and Mrs. Crawford for all their hard work coordinating this event.
- He noted that Kinder, 1st and 2nd grade, had recent training on the DIBELS reading assessment program. Assessments are set to begin in February, and he shared that teachers are prepared and up for the challenge.
- Mr. MacGaffey highlighted an agenda item regarding the replacement of Lenovo laptops. He explained that over the next three years, Discovery will systematically replace older student devices and other technology, making this a recurring item on the agenda.

VI. LCAP Mid-year Report (Information/Report)

- Mr. MacGaffey presented the 2024–2025 interim data, summarizing student performance in English Language Arts (ELA) for grades K–1 and 2–8, as well as Mathematics for grades K–8. He reviewed overall growth trends and provided comparison snapshots aligned with current LCAP goals and metrics. He noted strong overall student growth while expressing concern regarding performance data for low-income student groups.
- Mr. MacGaffey provided an update on LCAP goals related to ELPAC performance and progress of English Learners. He shared that our LCAP goal for actions and expenditures are currently in progress. He also reviewed goals met in the areas of chronic absenteeism and suspension rates, highlighting the impact of actions and expenditures connected to the school counselor and principal roles.
- He concluded that we have much to be proud of and are carefully examining our areas of concern.

VII. First Interim Budget Report (Information/Report)

- Mr. MacGaffey reviewed the current interim budget received in December. He reported that a revised calculation from the Budget Director resulted in a significant adjustment to total expenditures, increasing the ending balance of the Unaudited Actuals report from October.
- He also noted that total expenditures decreased by \$200,000, according to the 1st Interim Budget Report, resulting in an overall healthy surplus of approximately \$183,000.

VIII. Approve Increase of Substitute Clerical Pay Rate to \$16.90 per hour, effective January 1, 2026. (Action)

Motion: Appel

Second: Flores

Vote: UNANIMOUS

IX. Approve Purchase of 64 Lenovo Student Laptop Devices (Action)

Rationale: To align with the LCAP goal analysis, it is essential to invest in updated technology devices that support student learning, accommodate software upgrade requirements, and replace outdated computers. The plan includes purchasing 64 Lenovo laptops within the allocated computer budget for the 2025–26 school year.

Total Cost: \$52,400.00 not to exceed \$53,000.00

Funding Source: Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant

Motion: Flores

Second: Roa

Vote: UNANIMOUS

X. Board Announcements

- Dr. Appel expressed how encouraging it was to return from the winter recess with such positive news. He noted that this is his tenth year serving on the Board and shared that he has never seen the outlook appear so good. He extended his appreciation to everyone for their hard work.
- Mrs. Flores thanked Mr. MacGaffey for his thorough reports, noting her appreciation for the level of detail, the many positives shared, the dedication of the teachers, and the actions taken such as the walkthroughs.
- Mrs. Roa echoed the previous comments, commending Discovery's strong team—from teachers to parents—and emphasized that having everyone aligned makes a significant difference.
- President Carroll agreed with the sentiments expressed by her fellow Board members and thanked everyone, adding that it is going to be a great new year.

FULL BOARD TO CLOSED SESSION

XI. Closed Session - President Carroll recessed to closed session at 6:30pm for the purpose of:

A. Conference with Labor Negotiators

Agency Designated Representative: Neil MacGaffey

Employee Organization: DCTU

FULL BOARD TO OPEN SESSION

Reconvene to Open Session – Discovery Charter School Auditorium, President Carroll reconvened to Open Session at 7:08pm

A. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

President Carroll reported there is nothing to report, and no action was taken.

XII. Adjournment

(Action)

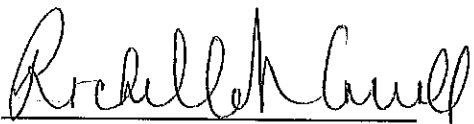
- A motion was made by President Carroll to adjourn the meeting at 7:09pm

Motion: Appel

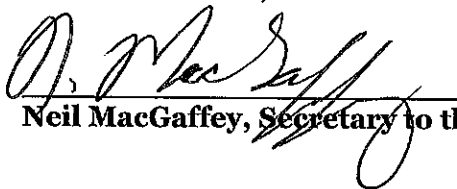
Second: Roa

Vote: UNANIMOUS

The next regular meeting of the Discovery Charter School Board of Directors will be on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 5:30pm.



Rochelle Carroll, Board President



Neil MacGaffey, Secretary to the Board