Discovery Charter School

1100 Camino Biscay
Chula Vista, CA 91910

Board of Directors
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2026
5:30pm
Auditorium

MINUTES

I. Opening Procedures

A. Call to Order at 5:31pm

B. Roll Call
Members Present: Rochelle Carroll, Morgan Appel, Harry Sevel, Graciela Flores

Members Absent: Sara Roa

Others Present: Neil MacGaffey, Erika Alamo, Rubi Palomares

C. Pledge of Allegiance led by Yaretzi Murillo

D. Safety Patrol Presentation

- Student Yaretzi Murillo presented to the Board regarding her experience participating in the Safety Patrol program. She shared her journey of being selected and promoted to Discovery's Major within the program, as well as her advancement to Lieutenant Colonel. Yaretzi reflected on the leadership opportunities, personal growth, and positive impact the experience has had on her.

E. Science Fair Presentation

Mrs. San Miguel, along with several student participants and award recipients from this year's Science Fair, presented to the Board. Mrs. San Miguel provided an overview of the event, highlighted the various student projects, and recognized award winners. Student presenters shared information about their projects and explained the scientific concepts, research, and thought processes behind their work.

II. Approve Agenda (Action)

Motion: Appel *Second: Flores* *Vote: UNANIMOUS*

III. Approve Minutes from the April 21, 2026 Regular Board Meeting (Action)

Motion: Sevel *Second: Flores* *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 opened the report with a moment of silence in honor of the victims affected by the recent tragedy.
- Mr. MacGaffey reported that the school is currently conducting interviews for several positions and recently hired a new counselor and primary kindergarten teacher.
- Mr. MacGaffey discussed the venues for the upcoming 6th and 8th grade promotion ceremonies and explained the recent policy changes impacting venue use. Discovery was notified of the changes only a few weeks prior, requiring staff to secure an alternative venue within a limited timeframe. Through outreach and collaboration with community partners, the school was able to identify a suitable location.
- Mr. MacGaffey provided information regarding upcoming ethics training for Board members.
- Mr. MacGaffey shared that the 8th grade class completed a community service project in collaboration with the school nurse, assembling care kits for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Mr. MacGaffey highlighted a recent Student Council spirit day themed "Anything But a Backpack," and shared photos from the event.
- Mr. MacGaffey reported on the success of the school's STEAM Fair and PTC Spring Festival, expressing pride in the students' work and appreciation to teachers for opening their classrooms to families and showcasing student projects. Positive feedback from the community was received regarding both events. Mr. MacGaffey also shared a video presentation of the Art Piñata exhibit.
- President Carroll addressed the recent district decision regarding changes to the 6th and 8th grade promotion venues. She clarified that the decision was made by the district and not by Discovery and noted that the timing of the notification was outside of the school's control. President Carroll commended staff for their efforts in securing an appropriate venue despite limited time and available resources.

VI. LCAP and Budget Overview for Parents Public Hearing (Information/Report)

- Mr. MacGaffey presented and summarized information previously shared with the Board throughout the development of the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). He began with an overview of the budget and projected revenue and expenditures for the 2026–2027 school year, as well as the total budgeted expenditures in the 26-27 LCAP, noting that while the budget reflects a small deficit, expenditures are aligned with meeting student needs and required services. He also reported on the total budget and actual expenditures for high needs students in the 2025-26 LCAP.
- Mr. MacGaffey reviewed the school's Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) funding and the eight state priorities addressed within the LCAP. He provided an overview of each goal, the associated metrics used to measure progress, and the actions implemented to support achievement of those goals.
- Mr. MacGaffey also reviewed the results of this year's Student Climate Survey. He shared that the highest-rated responses reflected students' belief that they have an adult at school they can talk to if they need help, that teachers care about them, and that they feel safe at school. He also discussed student responses related to liking school and feeling supported. Mr. MacGaffey noted that the survey results provide valuable opportunities for reflection and analysis by administrators and staff to better identify student needs and strengthen communication, support systems, and next steps for improvement.
- Mr. MacGaffey stated that the draft LCAP will be posted on the school's website and is scheduled for Board approval in June.

VII. DCS Sunshine Articles for Future Negotiations (Information/Report)

- Public Hearing: Discovery Charter School Teachers Association's Initial Proposal for re-opening negotiations for the 2026-2027 school year with Discovery Charter School.
    - Mrs. O'Connor on behalf of DCTU sunshine the following articles for the 2026-2027 negotiations with Discovery Charter School:
        1. Article 15: Compensation

- Public Hearing: Discovery Charter School's Initial Proposal for re-opening negotiations for the 2026-2027 school year with the Discovery Charter School Teachers Association.
    - Mr. MacGaffey on behalf of Discovery Charter School, sunshine the following articles for the 2026-2027 negotiations with Discovery Charter School:
        1. Article 15: Compensation
        2. Article 9: Certificated Evaluation Procedure

VIII. Approve Consent Calendar (Action)

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 Stipend for Adjunct Mentoring Duties for New Teachers in 2025-2026

Information: Approval is requested for a $1,000 stipend to compensate teachers for providing mentoring support to new teachers in the 25-26 school year. Support includes coaching, classroom support, onboarding assistance, and ongoing professional guidance throughout the school year.
Total Cost: $1,000
Funding Source: Unrestricted Charter Fund

B. Approve Stipend for Middle School Teachers for Spanish Support Supplemental Teaching

Information: Approval is requested for stipends for two Middle School teachers, for their roles in teaching and supporting Spanish learning for Middle School students throughout the 25-26 school year.
Total Cost: $1,000
Funding Source: Unrestricted Charter Fund

C. Approve Increase to RO Health Independent Contract Agreement

Information: Approval is requested to increase the existing purchase order for RO Health to provide continued school nurse staffing coverage through the end of the school year.
Total Cost: $10,000 not to exceed $11,000
Funding Source: Unrestricted Charter Funds

D. Approve 4th Grade Field Trip to Regal Cinemas

Information: As part of end-of-year activities, 4th grade students will participate in a field trip to celebrate their accomplishments and build community. Movie theme will explore subjects such as teamwork, perseverance, bravery and community.
Date: June 2, 2026
Total Cost: $2,000, not to exceed $2,500
Funding Source: Student Organization Funds

E. Approve Overnight Travel to Camp Cuyamaca Outdoor School for 2026-27

Location: Descanso, CA
Dates: October 19th-23rd, 2026
Participants: 6th Grade Students and Teachers
Funding Source: Student family payments, fundraiser funds, PTC sponsorships and Student Organization Funds

F. Approve ELOP Summer Intersession Field Trips with AthLEAD

Locations: Sea World, San Diego Zoo and LEGOLAND
Dates: June 12th, June 18th and June 29th, 2026
Information: To provide enrichment and experiential learning for students enrolled in Discovery's Extended Learning Opportunity Program (ELOP) in partnership with AthLEAD. A total of 40 students and 8 AthLEAD coaches will participate in field trips to

Sea World, San Diego Zoo and LEGOLAND. Field trip locations are subject to change, dependent on vendor and transportation availability,
Total Cost: $5000.00, not to exceed $8000.00
Funding Source: Extended Learning Opportunities Program

Motion: Appel *Second: Sevel* *Vote: UNANIMOUS*

IX. Approve Proposed Use of Education Protection Account (EPA) Funds for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (Action)

Information: Discovery Charter School proposes to apply EPA Resource 1400 funds as an offset to certificated employee (teacher) salaries, consistent with prior years and in full compliance with statutory requirements. EPA revenue appears in the general ledger as a revenue source that directly offsets teacher salary costs — representing each school's proportionate share of the higher-income tax surcharge collected statewide. The attached exhibit A presented to the Board for approval reflects the resolution and annual determination regarding EPA expenditures.

Motion: Flores *Second: Appel* *Vote: UNANIMOUS*

X. Approve the Hall Rental of "The Venue at Eastlake" for Discovery's 2025-26 6th Grade Promotion (Action)

Information: Due to recent updates in rental usage policies at previously utilized facilities, the school must secure an alternative location to host Discovery's upcoming promotion ceremonies.
Total Cost: $3,000 not to exceed $4,000
Funding Source: Student Organization Funds, PTC sponsorship and Unrestricted Charter Funds

Motion: Appel *Second: Sevel* *Vote: UNANIMOUS*

XI. Approve Job Description and Salary Schedule for Dean of Students Position (Action)

Information: The Dean of Students position was previously part of the school's organizational structure and provided critical support in student social emotional learning, behavior and discipline, and developed and implemented essential restorative practices and interventions as part of a Multi-Tiered Support System. The position was discontinued in prior years and is now being reestablished to better support current student and staff needs.
Fiscal Impact: Placement of the Dean of Students position on the Discovery Management Salary Schedule, aligned with the Assistant Principal salary classification. See Board exhibits B and C.
Funding Source: LCAP Unrestricted

Motion: Flores *Second: Appel* *Vote: UNANIMOUS*

XII. Board Announcements

- Mrs. Flores thanked everyone in attendance and expressed appreciation for the invitation to the Spring STEAM Fair. She shared how much she enjoyed the student presentations and was impressed by the students' creativity. Mrs. Flores praised Discovery's energy and passion, noting that the strong sense of engagement and enthusiasm is not something seen at every school. She thanked the staff and school community for their outstanding work.
- Dr. Appel commented on the student presentations and shared that he was amazed by both the Science and Arts presentations. He thanked the educators, staff, and parents for their efforts in creating such meaningful opportunities for students.
- Mr. Sevel thanked everyone for their fantastic work and shared that he especially appreciated reviewing the student climate survey results.
- President Carroll echoed the sentiments shared by fellow Board members and expressed how much she enjoys seeing Discovery bring STEAM education to life. She stated that the presentations and events are a strong reflection of Discovery's mission and vision for the future, and shared that she feels fortunate to be part of the Discovery community.

XIII. Adjournment at 6:35pm (Action)

- A motion was made by President Carroll to adjourn the meeting at 6:35pm.

Motion: Sevel *Second: Flores* *Vote: UNANIMOUS*

The next regular meeting of the Discovery Charter School Board of Directors will be on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 5:30pm.

Rochelle Carroll, Board President

Neil MacGaffey, Secretary to the Board