

# A Cooperative Choice School



# **Welcome to Discovery Community School Information Night**

**DCS is a  
cooperative  
choice school for  
grades K-5  
inspired by our  
mission  
statement:**

**As a community, we strive to educate the whole child in a cooperative effort that respects and responds to each child's needs and abilities. We do this through developmentally appropriate curriculum, active parent participation, and a world view that emphasizes community and lifelong learning.**



## **Configuration for DCS:**

- **Youngers – Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> grade**
- **Middles – 2nd and 3rd grade**
- **Olders – 4th and 5th grade**
- **There is a lottery for all grades.**



# Kindergarten Parents: **Please remember to register at your home school for kindergarten.**

## **Choice School application timeline for 2022-23**

- November 1, 2021 – Online application opens
- December 3, 2021 – Online application due by 4:00 p.m.
- January 7, 2022 – Lottery held at district
- January 14, 2022 – Notification to families
- January 26, 2022 – Acceptance deadline

## **Kindergarten (ONLY Einstein Dual Language Program)**

- November 1, 2021 – Online application opens
- February 25, 2022 – Online application due by 4:00 p.m.
- March 3, 2022 – Einstein Dual Language Program Kindergarten lottery held at district
- March 10, 2022 – Notification to families
- March 21, 2022 – Acceptance deadline





# DCS is a district-run “cooperative choice” school

What is a  
“*choice*”  
school?

“*Choice*” means another option. Being district-run, we benefit from all state funding and high education standards.



*On a learning journey – at an organic farm.*



*The Robot Garage: An in-class learning journey.*

***“Cooperative”* means  
parent involvement.**

**A LOT of parent  
involvement!**





**Families are asked to contribute some of their own personal time to DCS.**

**65 hours  
(about 7 hours each month)**

**This commitment can be met through:**

- **Classroom assistance**
- **Learning Journey support**
- **Committee work**
- **Attendance at steering, community group and other committee meetings**



# Curriculum Enrichment

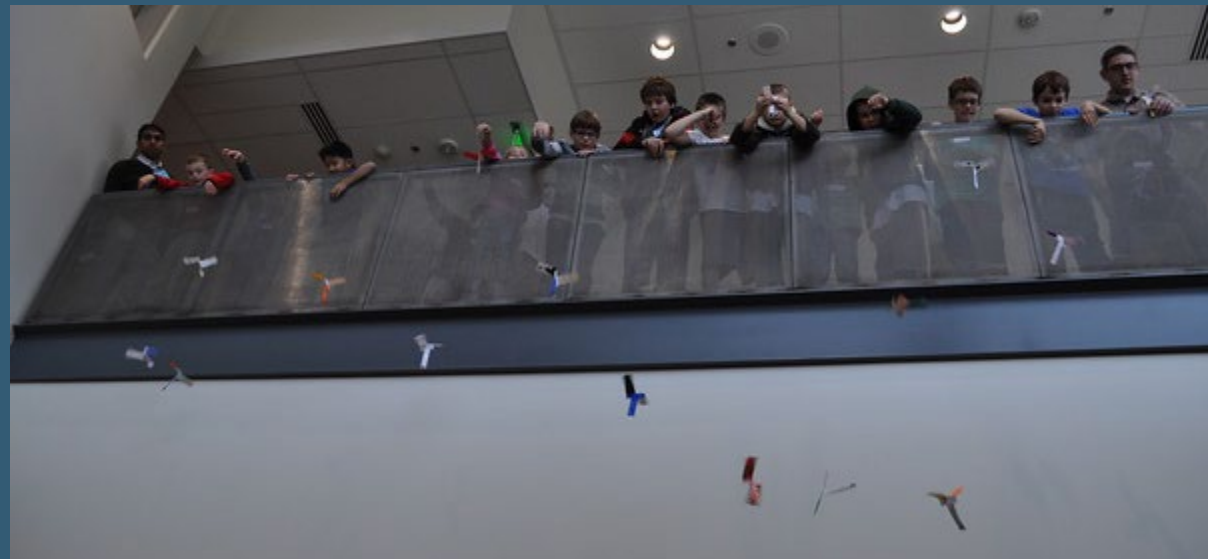
***“Learning Journeys”*** are field trips which expand and visualize our learning. Not surprisingly, the large number of learning journeys are one of the student’s favorite things about being in the DCS community.





# Curriculum Enrichment

*Multi-age* team opportunities and classroom environment offers students opportunities to help one another. This supports cooperative learning and community building.



# Community Outreach Projects

**DCS creates opportunities to reach out to other communities for students to see and learn the value of connecting with others. Gardening on the school grounds, catering meals to the homeless, and visiting a local senior center for music and fun are a few examples**





# **Friday Specials!**

## **Loved by all !!!**

**One of our favorite  
enrichment  
events... created  
by and fully  
supported by our  
parents**


- Cultural Activities**
- Art**
- Cooking**
- Science activities**
- Nature experiences**
- Drama**
- Photography**
- Fashion & Recycling!**





## OVERNIGHT CAMP





# New ideas inspired by parents to build community

**Fall Event**

**Winter Event**

**Spring Camp**

**Summer Picnic**





# Fall Event – DCS creates many unique events that support curriculum and build community





# Winter Event



# Spring Camp (a 2-night overnight stay) bring the whole family!

**Singing around the campfire...  
a classic community event! Bring  
your guitar and your best singing  
voice! You might want a blanket  
too.**








# Summer Picnic & Camping





# Commonly asked questions about DCS...






# How do we compare to other schools in the district?

## Discovery Community School

- **Smaller school – only three teachers**
- **Multi-age classrooms**
- **Learning journeys (approximately 1 per month)**
- **Parent involvement; 65 hours Per family, per year with classroom assistance strongly encouraged**

## District Wide


- **Class sizes very similar**
- **LWSD curriculum:**
  - **Language arts**
  - **Science**
  - **Math**
  - **Social studies**
- **Specialists:**
  - **Music**
  - **Library**
  - **Physical education**
- **Conferences & report cards**



**What if my child  
qualifies for  
extra services  
(IEP, 504, ML,  
Highly Capable)**

**DCS students receive all  
legal accommodations and  
supports. They will attend  
all Safety Net, Multi-  
Lingual, Highly Capable,  
and Quest groups they  
qualify for.**





**Are your teaching styles/philosophies different from the other schools?**

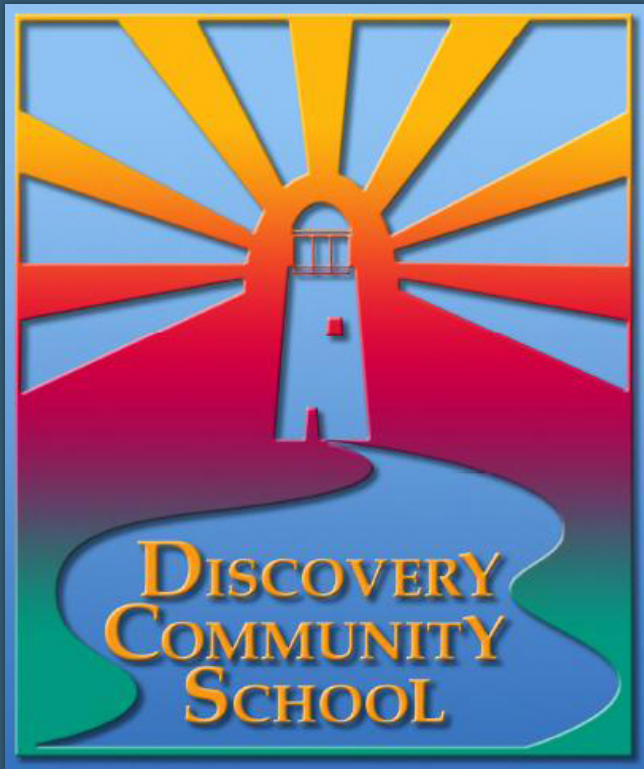
**Founding principles for DCS are now quite common across our district and other schools in general.**

- **Goal-setting conferences**
- **Hands-on learning experiences**

**Belief in “High Trust” and positive discipline.**

- **Empowering students to succeed**

**Is this a  
good fit for  
my child?**



- **Most likely... yes! If you are coming because you want to be involved in your child's education and want to support our curriculum.**
- **Independent learners often thrive in this environment due to the multi-age environment.**



# Things to consider...

- **You must live in Lake Washington School District boundaries to enter the lottery and while enrolled at DCS.**
- **If you are out of the Sandburg boundary, you will need to provide your own transportation.**
- **Same classmates for 6 years.**
  - **This can be a great bonding experience, but it can also be too small for some.**





Any Questions?

**Please type any questions  
you may have into the chat.**