

## The Discovery Connections

A newsletter for parents of Discovery Elementary students September 2021

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL – Dr. Mathew Nelson

Welcome back to Discovery Elementary! I hope everyone had a great summer and now find yourself excited to start the upcoming school year. There is such an awesome excitement in the air here, brought in by the students and staff as we get ready to begin another school year together at Discovery! This summer was a busy one at Discovery, as many of our classrooms received updated flooring and furniture, and Commons B was recarpeted and rearranged to be even more student focused and friendly! A special thanks goes to Candice Rozeske, Randy Klatt and our custodial staff for all their work in helping us get the entire school ready for another school year. We all work so hard to make Discovery a positive place for kids, and it's nice that we are continuing to take steps from a physical standpoint to have our spaces look as warm and inviting as the staff and students that reside in them.

As I have said many times in the past and every year in this introduction newsletter, there is just something special about Discovery Elementary. When we are in the middle of the school year and working so hard for the students we serve, we do not often take time to reflect on and appreciate all the great things about our school family and culture, but we have a GREAT thing going here! You will find information later in this newsletter about our recent School of Excellence award - which is very exciting and a well deserved award for our educational community! I appreciate our amazing team and our strong commitment to doing what is best for our students. It is hard to pinpoint exactly what it is that makes us so different and special, however I do believe the quote below really gets at the core of what we are all about in what we strive to do for kids every day.

They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel. ~Carl W. Buechner

"Together we're better!" continues to resonate in my mind whenever I think about the great school community we have at Discovery Elementary. It is clear that we all work together to establish a positive school culture with a focus on the Community C's as character education and education of the whole child are at the core of mission at Discovery Elementary School. Our Community "C's" are: Care, Cooperate, Contribute, Celebrate, Collaborate, Cheerful, Considerate, Courageous, and Creative. We believe it is important to emphasize these skills and help students understand what it looks like to demonstrate these important character skills.

We look forward to a great 2021-2022 school year!



## **Changes to End of Day Transportation**

Please call the school office at 763-682-8400 with any changes to end of day transportation plans for your child. You may get in the habit of letting the teacher know, but our teachers are not regularly able to check their email while teaching, so it is **best to call the office if there are ever changes** to where your child should go after school and we will get a note to your child's classroom so they get to the correct location.

## Family FUN Night is Thursday, October 7th!!!



### Discovery Elementary Family Fun Night is Thursday, October 7th,

from 5:00-7:30 at the Discovery Elementary School. This event, which is open to all, includes inflatables, bingo, and tons of fun games such as bouncy houses, face painting, minnow races, duck pull, ring toss, basketball shoot, crazy hair, and other carnival style games. The goal of Family Fun Night is for everyone to have FUN, and the teachers will be adding to the fun by running the individual games!

## Discovery Elementary School Named a School of Excellence!!!!

#### MEDIA RELEASE



#### Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association

1970 Oakcrest Avenue, Suite 204 Roseville, MN 55113

#### Contact:

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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Discovery Elementary School Validated as 2021-2022 Minnesota School of Excellence

(*Roseville, MN – September 1, 2021*) – Discovery Elementary School has been validated as a Minnesota School of Excellence (SOE) by the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA). This prestigious honor was awarded to Discovery for its commitment to modern teaching and learning.

"Through the Minnesota School of Excellence (SOE) program, grounded in national research on high-performing schools, MESPA has created the premier opportunity in the state for validating excellence and a commitment to continual growth in a school community," said Jon Millerhagen, MESPA executive director. "This school improvement program examines the entire school community through six national standards, ensuring there is a holistic approach to creating a plan for future achievement and celebrating the unique accomplishments of each School of Excellence."

### <u>Feel free to click here to read the full press release</u>. Later this spring there will be a School of Excellence recognition event (party)!!!

We will keep you posted on the details closer to the event.





The Parent Connection group is for anyone who wants or needs to remember that they are not alone as they work to help their children grow into their best and healthiest selves. The group is a safe, shame-free space to ask questions, learn practical, easily-accessible strategies to manage everyday challenges and behaviors, and develop relationships with other parents and families working through similar experiences.

The Parent Connection Group is facilitated by a graduate-level social worker who provides therapy to children in elementary schools, and has expertise in ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorder, supporting twice-exceptional children, anxiety, depression, trauma, grief and loss, and adjustment challenges.

There is no one right way to parent, and the group allows families the opportunity to learn a variety of different strategies and perspectives, along with actionable steps to create change.

# Sign Up:

Register for the Parent Connection Group here.

Schedule:	Topic:
Sept 16th	Anxiety
Sept 30th	Open Discussion & Questions
Oct 14th	Executive Functioning Skills
Oct 28th	Open Discussion & Questions
Nov 11th	Routine & Transitions
Nov 18th	Open Discussion & Questions
Dec 9th	Overwhelm
Dec 16th	Open Discussion & Questions

