

Approved September 23, 2019

Concord Quarter/Delaware Valley Friends School Care Committee, May 6, 2019

Present: Susan Brodesser (Birmingham, Clerk), Ginny Sutton (Westtown), Christa Harp (DVFS Trustee), David Calamaro (DVFS), Steve Kupferschmid (Willistown), Lynne Piersol (Coordinator)

Excused: Tom Ceresini (Middletown), Gray Goodman (DVFS)

1. Introductions – We welcomed Steve Kupferschmid from Willistown Meeting.
2. Worship
3. Approval of agenda – approved
4. The Committee approved the minutes from the March 4, 2019 meeting.
5. Date for the school to report to Concord Quarter – The school will report January 26, 2020 at Concord Quarterly Meeting
6. Review of School/Quarter interactions: (e.g., attendance at meetings for worship,/school musical; Quarterly Meeting participation; Religious Life Committees of Quaker Schools Dinner; Lynne publicizing events electronically; committee members providing info to individual meetings and extending personal invitations)

Some have attended meeting for worship at the school, especially from Birmingham Meeting where Susan has invited Friends; anyone is welcome if they RSVP with Kirk, Gray or David. The last meeting for worship will be on May 30 for this school year. Several Quarter members attended the musical. Kirk came to the Amanda Kemp program at Quarterly Meeting. Gray went to the religious life committee of Quaker Schools dinner (not sure if Tom made it - check with him). Events have been publicized electronically. Some people are interested in coming to Arts Night on May 10.

Other dates of interest: Middle school awards on June 6, 9am, Upper school awards on June 7, 9:15. If you want to come please RSVP. Graduation is at 10 on June 10 at Friends Center. Used to be at Arch Street but they don't host graduations any more. Ginny offered to explore the possibility of using Westtown School for it.

DVFS is invited to Quarterly Meeting on July 21, 2019 to the program on tweens and teens. DV can let the students and families know who are there for summer program, but they are not generally DV students during the school year.

People can visit DV in the summer, but there will be no meeting for worship.

Susan is scheduled to talk at West Chester and Birmingham. Ginny talked to Westtown's business meeting about DVFS. Committee members are open to coming to other meetings to talk about DV.

Westtown on 2nd Sundays has Quakerism 201 on Quaker practice, including clerking, clearness, more in depth and will send it to David to invite staff/faculty. Joe Marchese, who also taught at Westtown, is teaching it.

7. Results of Gray's talking with students about topics they might like to discuss – tabled since Gray was not present. David will ask Gray for input and hopefully we can get it in writing before the next meeting.
8. Ideas offered by Quarter Members:
 - A. David Leonard (Birmingham MM) reported that some students from Lincoln University and some Kendal residents had participated in a "Narrative 4 Story Exchange", a structured program of story sharing that builds "empathy among diverse populations and turns that empathy into understanding and action". He wondered if DVFS students and Quarter members might be interested in doing something like this. DV has 9 passenger vans. David Calamaro is interested in programs that get students out of the building. He will take this idea back. They are working on building Quaker identity and Quaker life focus in the lower school since it is so new (this is second year of 3rd and 4th grade and after 2020 1st grade will be added), and in the middle school. Question asked if school would like support around curriculum for younger grades re Quakerism. Gray Goodman will be working with different age groups on Quakerism, Quaker Life. Suggestions were made about coming to hear Melinda Wenner Bradley at Quarterly Meeting in July (where she'll talk about teens and tweens in meetings) and connecting school with resources.
 - B. Marina Pavluk – West Chester Meeting would be open to hearing from a student who wanted to present something they were interested in. The idea of having a panel of students from the various committees of the school (LatinX, Diversity, LGBTQ and others) talk about their experience at a Diversity conference and or what it is like to be at DV.
 - C. Birmingham Meetinghouse served as a field hospital during the Battle of the Brandywine (1777), first for American troops and then for British troops. Both American and British soldiers are buried in Birmingham's Peace Garden. Simply visiting the meetinghouse (and other, equally "historical" meetinghouses in the quarter) might be of interest to some students. Julie Senko (Birmingham MM) also observed that, should any DV students be interested in doing a service project, she can always use help with Peace Garden maintenance. Susan will ask Julie Senko when she would need help in the Peace Garden.
 - D. DV presenting at Quarterly Meeting?: We discussed the idea of having faculty or staff and/or students to talk about learning differences at DV. Perhaps as the program at Westtown Meeting when it hosts QM. Ginny will ask Westtown about having DV talk at QM. Lynne will remind Westtown it is their turn for Quarterly Meeting on October 27. Publicity could also include Western Quarter and Downingtown Meeting
 - F. Invitation from DV to come for worship and a tour as was done in 2018? We agreed to do this on November 7 (first choice) or November 14. David Calamaro will ask Kirk's assistant to put it on the calendar now.

G. Idea of having meetings invite DVFS staff and families to come for worship on a particular Sunday – This could be on Concord Quarter’s Planning Committee agenda for next time (early August).
Lynne will also ask meetings about this as she visits meetings in the Quarter.

9. Next meeting: September 23, 3:15pm at DVFS.

10. Closing Worship