Cyprus Community Council

October 22, 2015, 4:00PM @ Front Office Conference Room

Meeting Minutes


Agenda Items:

1. Rules of Order (handout)

   As a community council we need to have Rules of Order that are made publically available. Mr. McDaniel found several examples of rules of order from other high school community councils and prepared a Rules of Order and Procedure document. Tonya has a chart for Robert's Rules of Order. Tonya Aston motioned to accept the Rules of Order and Roberto Jimenez offered the second. It was passed unanimously.

2. Bus Zone Safety (Spackman)

   There are several problems and hazards with the bus zone. Busses pull out and do not yield to cars. There is a huge safety issue with drop off in front of the school. Mr. McDaniel will call Tom at transportation to talk about the busses. He will also call UPD to see if they will send several officers on a predetermined date to talk to drivers who are dropping off or picking up students in an unsafe manner as an education. He will also coordinate a couple of days where officers and administrators can work together to educate the drivers. They will work on a mass email, app and web message.

3. Chromebooks (Spackman)

   Question was posed: Do we have chromebooks and who is using them? Mr. McDaniel said they have been using money to get extra technology for the school. Every English and Math teachers have enough for their classes. Other teachers have some. Next year the district will give all math teachers chromebooks, so those will be distributed to other teachers.

4. Seniors on Track (Jimenez)

   Council discussed what is being done to be sure seniors are on track. There are 4 adult mentors that they hired with the Land Trust money. They have started a new program
where Mr. McDaniel and the other administrators are meeting with 10 at risk seniors each. Anitra Koehler of the PTA said that West High has a great student mentor program and she is preparing a proposal for Cyprus to implement it. Mr. McDaniel has asked for any other ideas to help. He said that we have a large number of bubble kids that could go either way right now. Administrators are assigned by grade. Over the summer, he has them all bring up every one of their assigned students PTG and bring in everyone who is behind. Mr. McDaniel has also asked counselors to reach out in preparation for 9-12. They have started committees to try to decide what Cyprus will look like -- attendance committee, dress code committee, school intervention to deal with truancy, be more proactive. They have started a school student support team that includes counselors, social workers, and a parole officer. On each student that they are working with they now have actions, due dates and follow up.

5. School Website & Council Requirements (handout)

There are things that we need to do. We have had elections. Meetings need to be open to the public. Each member needs to be trained on the duties and responsibilities of the Community Council. We should all watch the video on trust lands. We need to post all the members of the CC and contact information. We need to post how the funds were used last year. Last year we had too much carryover of trust land funds. We need to spend all the money or risk losing some. If we find we are behind, we need to amend our plan and revote. After a few months of school we should reevaluate our spending. In the spring, we will need to allocate how the money will be spent the next year.

6. 9-12 Reconfiguration Discussion and Possible Vote on Brockbank

Once the community approves the 9-12 Reconfiguration, the district does not reach out with further information. Mr. McDaniel has been talking to other schools about what works and what does not. Right now they are in the middle of a boundary reconfiguration study. If they approve the reconfiguration then Brockbank will become part of the Cyprus campus. If it is not approved, then there will not be enough room at Cyprus and the 9-12 will not happen. Mr. McDaniel will meet with the district next week. He feels like the change should be less about the buildings and more about relationships. He would like to see 50% of the staff at Matheson be Brockbank teachers. They are starting the discussion of what the schedule will look like. They will register a month earlier to give the school a chance to figure out what will be needed. They are working to get information out and have open conversations, the biggest issue is the unknown. November 20th will be an open invitation for parents to come talk about what it will look like. If you want to be on a committee, talk to Mr. McDaniel. Based on student seats there will be 2,647 students after the 9-12. It will be the 2nd largest school in the district. 54 self-contained students. 310 special ed. 110 ESL students (plus Brockbank students whose data was not available). The biggest issues are supervision, safety and space. Supervision will include 2 schools covered at all times. Right now there is a full time officer at Brockbank and a full time officer at Cyprus. Will they take
one away when they become one school? Safety, they are looking at smaller learning groups. There are potential street crossing problems, especially if they have students parking at both campuses. They would eliminate all relocatables. There is an issue with the library -- they would like to keep both. The basic schedule would have the average 9th grader spending 75% of the time on the B campus (Brockbank). They would reduce travel back and forth by blocking. All 9th and 10th grade core classes would be at the B campus. A few of the required electives would be at the B campus -- PE and computer tech. 10th graders would spend about 50% of their time on the B campus. Either all of A or B day. Some of the 10th grade electives would be at the B campus -- health, fitness for life. 11th and 12th graders would be mostly at C campus (Cyprus). They would go to a block schedule with teaming. The advantages of teaming is the teachers get to know their group of kids. It makes adjusting schedules easier and they have control over moving classes, with a common prep to help identify problems and find ways to help. Mr. McDaniel would like to bring welding back to Cyprus. Two thoughts on travel between the 2 campuses -- 1. Increase the passing time, but it would extend the day. 2 Make a pass for the few that would have to travel between campuses like the current GTI passes. They have talked about having a freshman academy class that would teach students to be successful. Most students wouldn't like losing an elective. The solution would be to teach it with Geography, which is usually a one semester course, but Granite School District has chosen to teach it as a one year course. They would learn about notes, binders, calendars, homework, skills of academic survival. They would then ask all teachers to start using these strategies (Cornell notes). They will build in more supports for kids who are behind. Brockbank has labs that will become math labs for 9th graders who did not pass 8th grade math. Find ways to build successes early. Mr. McDaniel would like to make all 9th graders take Physics as their 9th grade math. It is taught in a year, but is also a semester course other places, which gives the teacher plenty of time to help students who are struggling. The math is 9th grade math. The state recommends it be taken in 9th grade. Key is who to teach it.

Mrs. Clements asked about the arts for the new 9-12. The junior high teachers are worried about their job security. We need to support the arts. They talked about a performing arts academy, but art is a subject that goes with the teacher.

7. SSAP Approval

Mr. McDaniel presented the SSAP for approval. It includes the demographics, a check of the commitment to all students, checking off all the programs they are using, teaching strategies. He had to put in goals for the year. A statement of parent-community involvement was presented. It was passed around for the Council to see. A motion was made to accept the SSAP and seconded. It passed unanimously.
8. Training

9. Other

Non-English Speaking Students and Families. The school app is in English and Spanish. They have LIA (Latinos in Action) nights with invitations sent to those who indicated that Spanish was spoken in the home. Most of the events have translators. They are working to have the staff reflective of the student body. They are aware of the challenge and are working on it, but not everything is in place. There is a new People of Polynesia group.

Adjourn: 5:51 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 12, 2015, at 4:00 p.m.

Roster of Community Council members and Minutes will be posted on Cyprus website. Email agenda items to Tonya Aston at least one week before scheduled meeting at tonjon7@gmail.com.