

Minutes from Community Council

Thursday, September 19, 2019

7:30 a.m. Driggs Library

Attendance:

Chris VanDam

Juan Arce-Larretta

Trudi Day

Lacie Hyden

Benjamin Peters

Absent:

Kim Stohl

Brock Holt

Also in attendance- Carrie Linscott, PTA President

- 1) Approve amendment for Land Trust and TSSA funds to be cover lower than expected student enrollment leading to a loss of .5 FTE
Juan motion to approve, Chris second the motion, all in favor
- 2) Available trainings- Mr. Peters will attend the statewide training on October 29th at the GSD office
- 3) Meeting schedule for school year
Keep current schedule of third Thursday and 7:30 in the school library
- 4) Chair and secretary elections
Juan motioned for Chris VanDam to be the chair, Ben- second, all in favor
- 5) Minutes approval from August meeting
Juan- motion to approve, Chris second, all in favor

Discussion about how to engage the Driggs community prior to the upcoming GSD board vote regarding reconfiguration on October 1st. A letter will be drafted to the community and sent out ASAP. The letter will include board member contact information. The letter should be crafted to encourage both input for and against reconfiguration and communicate concerns such as keeping our great teachers in the network, addressing the transition of 5th and 6th grade students to Junior High if reconfiguration is approved, etc.

Minutes for approval:

Howard R. Driggs Community Council Agenda

August 22, 2019 7:30 am school art room- relocatable classroom

1. Discussion of Network Survey Results
2. Vote on Reconfiguration

Questions to consider:

Questions that we will need to discuss at our meeting and please feel free to add, but I need to set an agenda by Tuesday to get this meeting posted and publicized:

1. Does the Driggs CC want to request grade reconfiguration?
2. Does the current council decide this or do we wait for the new council that will be elected in September to decide.
3. What year do we want to reconfigure, start of next school year 2020-21 or wait until 2021-22?
4. Any other information that we need to discuss?
5. Patron discussion time?

Please let me know your thoughts. There is a lot to consider. One question you might have for me is could we really reconfigure by the start of next school year? Yes, I could, it would be a very busy year in preparation, but with the 3rd year of the big teacher pay increase at the end of this school year I am going to have retirements, so I can take advantage of this to help build the new staffing for the school. However, I also want to be sensitive to other councils and see if they can also do this. It's a little bit of a balancing act and I will contact other principals to see what their thoughts are.

Notes:

Attendance:

Trish Hill

Kim Stohl

Trevor Black

Chris VanDam

Brock Holt

Ben Peters

Juan Arce-Laretta

Alecia Baldwin

Erin Gubler

- Olympus Highschool voted in favor of 9th grade going up to high school and will send letter in to superintendent
- Driggs and Rosecrest no, majority in favor of 9th up to highschool
- Driggs community in favor of 6th staying at Driggs
- Concern for policy changes in reconfiguration from school board
- New principal at Oly junior (Josh LeRoy)
- different model for 6th grade- more middle school
- now we have a choice
- now we have the chance to influence the process
- support the community decision
- got a cell phone policy change at Junior High
- will be left behind-community will have some say in the process
- concern of how it was handled in the latest updates to the process
- What timeline would we like?
- Are we reacting to politics?
- more opportunities for junior high students-additional admin-psychs, social workers-
- opportunities are changing for our community to make decisions
- infrastructure in junior high and all schools is dependent on enrollment- FTE, elective courses
- we have a lot of student support in our community
- special permit concern- hierarchy—of siblings, in Granite District, Dual Immersion, out of Granite District
- we have a say at this time-let's a timeline on it implement it on our timeline
- JuliAnne Taylor- shared experience from her family attending Junior High in 6th grade, shared that her current teaching experience in 6th grade at Wasatch Junior High is a positive one. 9th grade in junior high versus high school- 9th grade should be in high school
- Does timing matter? (Liz Shellum) PBG is coming school wide in talking to teachers at Oly concerns of the rollout of PBG in the high school- reconfiguration
- concerns for our teachers and how the transition to 6th in the middle school would work
- a large teacher retirement is predicted for the end of the current school year
- what are the downsides?- emotional response versus actual data or statistical effects

-Mrs. Gardiner- junior high was the weakest school experience for my students
-principals will change overtime- brand new junior high would work for 6,7,8 current
-fair for students? If they started at Driggs- should they finish?
-why don't we special permit kids out of Oly Junior- friends, connections, communities
-speculation- will this happen to us we have the chance to help direct the process
-let's not have the idea that it should be inevitable- vote
-Trudi Day, junior high had less opportunity for elective classes in a 7-8 environment
-Juan- motion to vote no to move 6th grade, it makes sense to move 9th grade students up to high school, for 6th grade, reconfiguration if it is approved should not take place before fall of 2021. Motion then removed by Juan.

Trish Hill- issue if 6th doesn't go issue with Junior high will suffer at the network level

Erin Gubler- concern of bullying in Junior High 9th-6th

Chris VanDam- less of an age gap in 6-8 group

Suzie Gardiner- if yes, let's move forward in 2021

Juan-cancel my motion

Chris VanDam-motion of yes for reconfiguration for moving 6th grade up to junior high and 9th grade up to high school reconfiguration timeline of 2021 at earliest.

Juan second the motion

Vote taken

5 yes votes

Chris VanDam

Trish Hill

Ben Peters

Alicia Baldwin

Juan Arce-Laretta

3 no votes

1 vote for yes 9th , no 6th

Brock Holt

Trevor Black

Kim Stohl

Erin Gubler