

## SCC Minutes January 9, 2017

### Eisenhower Jr. High

Attending: Mark Ellermeier, Cory Martin, James Earl, Sue Weierman, DeAnn Neal, Betsy Valora, Corrine Kendall, Rebecca Riggs, Rebecca Spence, Anissa Christensen, Kammie Jones, Mrs. Garcia

Meeting called to order at 3:20 pm

#### 1. Teen Living class

We are losing the Teen Living class next year. It is a 9th grade only class and it is being cut state wide. We started this class here in 1995 and about 85% of our 9th grade students sign up for the class each year. The curriculum material is updated regularly to ensure that what is being taught is current and applies to the students.

There is a public meeting this Friday, January 14 @ 10:15 at the Utah State Board of Education Building. At it they will consider continuing the class. If you would like to come and voice your opinion for 2-3 minutes about why you think Teen Living should continue, you are invited to do so. You can also have a voice by writing/emailing the Utah State Board of Education.

Mrs. Garcia and other teachers here think this should actually be a required class because it helps them with communication, jobs, relationships, etc. Some people feel that Teen Living is not a college bound class, but isn't communication, employment and better understanding of personal relationships needed for success to get to and succeed in college? These skills are called soft skills in CTE language. Teen Living is different from Human Development in that Teen Living goes into the teen mind, while HD is more biology. Mrs. Neal believes Teen Living is an essential class (perhaps even more essential than science )because kids don't come equipped to deal with other people anymore. They see dysfunctional families at home and on TV and have a hard time dealing with others in an appropriate way. The science world will go on if they don't understand science, but they need to learn about themselves and others to have a better future for themselves.

Mrs. Garcia only found out about this recently when she received an email from the Family Consumer Science state specialist. She is posting about this on Facebook and trying to generate support to keep this class on our curriculum. Anyone wanting to help or wanting more info please contact Mrs. Garcia.

#### 2. Needs for next year to plan for the budget

Principal Ellermeier: Right now we have a lot of technology (thanks to this council for getting science chromebooks!) and I would like to see more aids here. A minimum of 2 more. Mainly ELL/ language arts class aids. They would each work 29 hours per week. This would use up a lot of the Trustland money, but it would help with our numeracy and literacy growth goal.

Kammie: Would aids be more beneficial in science or math? No, language is most important. When we improve english and language skills and understanding, all other areas improve also.

We will reach out to people we know who want to be at Eisenhower and like working with teen kids. We will also put an ad over at SLCC. We currently have 1 opening for special ed, but these new positions should be easier to fill because they are to work with kids in mainstream classes.

### 3. Plans for numeracy and literacy growth goal.

This ties into what we just talked about with hiring more aids. We also need to continue to work on asking ourselves not just "did I teach it" but more "did they learn it".

### 4. AVID

We are moving forward and all teachers are on board with implementing the AVID program. We are still talking with teachers to see who wants to go and is available to go to the training conference this summer, but we are putting the team together. Ms. Kessler will be the AVID coordinator. We are not yet sure if we will begin the program with 7th or 9th grade, but will decide before registration.

### 5. School-wide Accountability

Kammie wanted to know how Eisenhower teachers were directed to enforce accountability (student attendance and grades), because as a teacher at Taylorsville High, there seems to be some issues there with accountability. Mark said he lets each teacher set their own expectations and accountability for their classes. The teachers at the meeting said they appreciate the autonomy. DeAnn said that she has higher expectations for her honors biology class than her earth science class, and puts those expectations into the disclosures. The key is to put everything in your disclosure then stick to it. Kids need to learn to work with different personalities (ie: teachers) just like we all do in our jobs and lives. A common idea is to let the kids do the assignment until they get it right. They may not get full credit, but the idea is for them to really learn.

### 6. Eisenhower Showcase Feb 8

This is to advertise to incoming 7th graders and their parents what programs we have at Eisenhower and how great we are. The basic presentation will be: the Pledge, song, cheer, band, SBO's, GTI, Dance Co, Drama Co., teachers, Encore, NJHS. Kammie liked a previous presentation where the kids were told: everyone here needs to find an adult friend at the school. She feels the teachers really care about students here, and kids should be encouraged to find that out.

### 7. PTSA

Books are balanced and we have continued concern for the health of our PTSA President.

### 8. Latinos In Action

We will be starting up a Latinos in Action group and are getting a lot of interest in it. It will be for 8th and 9th grade. There is a program fee of \$3000 that we are funding. There is a curriculum, and it is a great mentor opportunity. 1/2 of our school population is Latino, but this club does not exclude and is not only for Latinos.

9. Taylorsville High Community Council

On January 18th (same day as science fair) Ben Horsley is coming to talk to the Taylorsville community council. We think it is to talk about the district's desire that Taylorsville change to a 9-12 grade school. This council's opinion is that Tville isn't capable of that without building a third story or realigning boundaries. If you want to find out what the meeting is about, just attend. G104 - the conference room.

10. Future Items for Discussion

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm