

SCC Minutes November 9, 2015

Eisenhower Jr. High

Attending: Mark Ellermeier, Kammie Jones, Adam Attridge, James Earl, Anna B Astersen, Sue Weierman, Sherri Branch, Rebecca Riggs, Betsy Valora

Meeting called to order at 3:45 pm

Trust Land Funds

Principal Ellermeier gave an accounting of the money spent so far, and plans for future spending. \$29,500 allotted to 2 aides positions; \$6545.36 spent so far. We are advertising now to hire another ELLA. They would also work with Special Ed behavior needs kids to create a 29 hour/week position. 19 hour ELLA/10 hour Special Ed. If anyone knows someone who might be interested, let them know about it and have them apply. Ms. Weierman might know someone.

There is \$10,000 allotted to technical services spec development. We have spent \$27,874.26 on 3 chromebook labs, and have \$937.60 left to spend there.

Next meeting, we will discuss the possibility of the AVID program. Taylorsville High uses the program and as we are a feeder school it could be a real benefit for the students involved to get started before high school. Principal Ellermeier will get the cost and other information to present next time.

Teacher Evaluations for parent input

Parents may be receiving forms sent home with their children from teachers. The evaluations give parents an opportunity to give input on their child's classes. Tina Moore has used this form with great success. The district wants us to provide hard copies instead of doing it electronically. The questions are generic but give good insight and feedback for the teachers.

Status on new classes and student schedule changes

It has been difficult, but the counselors handled it with flying colors. Only 3 parents out of 120 students changed complained. Each year we get a student projection, but don't know actual numbers of students until school is underway. This year we had 50 more 7th graders than expected. This gave use 1.3 FTE which we could either use or lose. Some kids had to have schedule changes, but we were able to do it at quarter end instead of mid quarter. We want to add a 1/2 time science teacher at the end of the semester, but it is hard to find science teachers. Our current science teachers have been offered the additional hours, but none feel like they can do it. We also don't want to use Trustland money for this.

Choral Program

At a recent Taylorsville High choir concert, the choir director thanked the choir directors at Eisenhower and Bennion for all their hard work in preparing great choir students for high school, then proceeded to talk about Eisenhower and its principal as if we were trying to get rid of our choir program. We are not! Eisenhower and its Principal Ellermeier are very pro-music. As long as kids want and sign up for choir and music classes, we will have them. Mrs. Christensen, Ms. Weierman, and Principal Ellermeier have all talked to Dr. Muse at Taylorsville about this, and have gotten the misunderstanding straightened out.

Community Council Training

Ms. Weierman went to CC training, provided by the state, in the Jordan district. She provided copies of and went over several of the notes she took:

1. The purpose of CC is to empower parents – it is a partnership with parents, board, admin, teachers; Utah is the only state with this council venue.
2. Meetings are public and open
3. Parent reps must have a child at the school for at least one of the years in their 2-year term. There are no term limits, they can just be re-elected.
4. CC should have a 2 parent member majority; to fill unfilled spots, parents or teachers can ask others.
5. There is a Chair and Vice-Chair; the Principal does not run the meetings. This was a hot button at the meeting Ms. Weierman attended. There were also problem discussions about some principals not coming to the meetings, and some teachers not feeling comfortable speaking freely in front of their principal. This CC feels we do not have problems in this area.
6. The largest CC in the state has 117 members – this is not recommended.
7. SIP – School Improvement Plan include School Land Trust plan and Professional Development Plan.
8. Plan should a. Identify needs, b. State goals with a measurement, c. Outline steps, d. Outline funding, e. the District has a say by accepting or rejecting plan – does not plan new goals
9. New requirement – need to address cyber security/safety/filters and can use up to \$5000 to address it. The requirement can be fulfilled by simply discussing it in CC. Because of discussions that took place at the district CC training meetings that we all attended, this CC understands the situation and feels we have addressed it at our school.
10. Agendas are to be used at CC meetings and posted one week before the meeting. It should include a. Other items for discussion, and b. Future Agenda items.
11. Agendas and minutes are to be posted on the Website
12. CC may appoint sub-committees and task forces.
13. CC should consider developing a Year Timeline. It is not required, but a general year timeline would be useful.
14. Training and resources are posted at www.schoollandtrust.org

Mr. Ellermeier reiterated that for every Land Trust plan we consider, we need a goal. Teachers can be given surveys to find out what they think is needed.

Chromebooks and their future

Ms. Weierman discussed that there had been concerns about an announcement made by Chromebook that made it sound like we might not have support by chromebook in the future for any new machines purchased. As it turns out, she learned that Chromebook is merging with android but we will continue to receive chromebook support for existing and future machines we purchase.

Kammie Jones, a teacher at Taylorsville High, expressed her concern that her high school students are getting burned out on chromebooks. We discussed how the chromebooks are a tool with good and bad points. No tech will supplant a teacher, but chromebooks are the direction we are heading. It is affordable tech. Every student that works on their assignments on chromebook at school can submit it online to the teacher. Mr. Earl talked

about what a benefit that is – everyone in his class automatically turns in the assignment from that day so everyone gets a grade – no lost or unsubmitted papers. We need to use the chromebooks in balance with teacher interaction in the classroom.

Revisit meeting time

We decided to change the SCC meeting time from 3:45 pm to 3:30 pm in the 2nd Monday of the month. All community council members attending voted a unanimous “yes”.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30

Next meeting December 7, 2015 in the Media Center.