

# Eisenhower Jr. SCC Minutes

Dec. 13, 2017

Media Center

**Meeting start time:** 3:13pm

**Attendees:** Fern McClelland, Christina Anderson, Scott Anderson, Hillary Dalton, Tere Gerber, Jacquelyn Swensen, Sue Weierman (teachers vice-chair), Betsy Valora (chair), Mark Ellermeier (principal), Kammie Jones, Sarah Timpson (secretary)

**1. Approval of last month's meeting minutes:** proposed by Betsy V. Seconded by Hillary D. All present approved.

**2. Discussion on options for allocating next year's Land Trust money:** Mr. Ellermeier

With registration cards coming in soon, Mr. Ellermeier wanted to discuss the benefits/challenges of double-blocking science for next year like EJH has done with math and language arts (which has definitely increased test scores in those areas. He explained that because the Trust Land budget is limited, if the SCC voted to spend the money on a new science teacher, money would have to be taken from some other existing program (I.e. AVID, aides, etc.) It was discussed that the needs of our ESL kids should come first and these all kids will have more opportunities in high school to explore science. It was also brought up that double-blocking science could limit elective classes for all 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students – not just ESL students.

The discussion led to a vote to NOT spend money to double-book science. But instead it was suggested that the administration bring forth some ideas of how to allocate money that could benefit these ESL kids (another AVID class, an ESL period, etc.) for next month's meeting.

**3. December Programs:**

Dance Concert was last week and was well-done

Instrumental Concert is tonight

Choir Concert will be next Wed. Dec. 20

Cultural Arts Assembly is open to parents, event happens during 5<sup>th</sup> period on Dec. 21

**4. New "Proficiency-Based Grading" math program:**

It was suggested that the math department send out a flyer to the parents. It was suggested that the teachers include the favorable outcomes so far as well as how kinks are being worked out. And possibly suggest how students could get their retesting done in a more reasonable time frame to avoid congestion of the Chromebooks which lead to lost opportunities for kids who wish to retest.

Mr. Ellermeier reports that our math teachers feel they have kept up on all parent's questions and concerns as they have arisen but he will pass along the request for the math department to send out the parent flyer as suggested by the SCC.

**5. Feedback for PTSA/ Mix It Up Activity:**

7<sup>th</sup> graders reported to their teachers that it was too loud and crowded to be able to talk, they reported that the conversation-starter questions were too personal. But other 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students reported that it was fun and that they did meet some new people.

It was suggested that if we did this activity again, we would try it in smaller groups, perhaps by bringing down only ½ of the STAR Time teachers and schedule it away from midterm or finals week.

**8. Other Business:** We were all encouraged to go to the school website and vote on one of two calendars for a future school year.

**9. Next month's meeting:** Jan. 10

**Meeting adjourned time:** 4:01pm