

Gourley Elementary Community Council Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Chairman Jones. In attendance were Brandon Jones, Paul Stoker, Nichole Higgins, and Allesen Peck.

Principal Peck presented the proposed staffing plan for the 2015-16 school year to the council. She noted that the plan would place four teachers at each grade level first through sixth grades with three teachers assigned to the kindergarten. The plan also has built into it one reading intervention teacher, one math intervention teacher, and one instructional coach. Chairman Jones made a motion to accept the staffing plan as presented. Mr. Stoker seconded the plan. The vote was 3 to 0 in favor of accepting the staffing plan.

The next item on the agenda was the school's fine arts specialist. Principal Peck reminded the council that for the past two years we have had a dance specialist. She also indicated that there was some interest from the faculty of changing to a general music specialist for the coming year. The council discussed that it might be nice to expose students to a different form of the arts. Chairman Jones made a motion to request a general music arts specialist from the district for the coming school year. Mrs. Stoker seconded the motion. The vote was 3 to 0 in favor of requesting a general music teacher.

Chairman Jones reported on his efforts to improve traffic safety around the school. He has been unable to make connections with the necessary person, but will continue to work on this and report back at our next meeting.

Principal Peck requested that a fourth item be added to the agenda. She shared with the council that she had been approached by district personnel and asked to consider beginning a dual immersion Spanish program at Gourley. Principal Peck shared data showing that across the district, students in dual immersion programs are out performing those in traditional classrooms. Specifically the council looked at data from Monroe Elementary, a school with similar demographics. They were very impressed with the testing results. Chairman Jones made a motion to support a Spanish dual immersion program at Gourley should our school be selected for the program. Mrs. Stoker seconded the motion. The vote was 3 to 0 in favor of supporting a dual immersion program. Principal Peck will communicate the council's vote to the district.

As three council members were unable to attend the meeting today, Principal Peck will send the information to them through email this afternoon. She will ask for their vote on the three

issues that were voted on in the meeting today. She will then communicate their votes to the rest of the council.

The next council meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15th, at 3:30 p.m. in the school media center.

At 4:30 p.m., Kim Webb responded by email giving her support to the action taken by the council today. With Kim's vote, we have over 50% of council members voting. Therefore, all actions taken by the council today will stand.