



# Kearns High School

"Where destiny is a matter of choice, not chance."

## School Community Council Meeting Notes

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Parent Members Present: Deonna Weight, Mike Edwards, Susan Pate, Jeralynn Kjar, Danielle Mecham

Staff Members Present: Maile Loo, Megan Angell, Misty Morrow, Ryan Knowlton

Meeting called to order at 4:32 by Deonna Weight

The roll was signed and the two videos we needed to watch were introduced. The council viewed #4, Creating a Plan and #5 Additional Responsibilities. There were no questions after the viewings.

Deonna turned the time over to Ms. Loo to speak about attendance. She began with concerns about our student's attendance. Parents are allowed to excuse up to 28 class periods a year without consequence. The district has mandated that when they are nearing this total a letter and/or email must be sent out to the parents. These letters went out and there has been a lot of kickback from the parents. This policy is not in our hands, it is a district choice.

The Parent Involvement Committee, which meets once a month during late-start time, came up with an intervention attendance policy, hoping to help decrease some issues. This policy will provide lunchtime, after-school, Saturday, and Peer Court opportunities to work off some of the class periods counting against them. The students would need to attend two lunch sessions or work after school for one hour with the custodial crew to work off one day, or four class periods, counting against them. A Saturday or Peer Court (after school hours, Mondays, in Kearns and Magna) choice will provide them with four days, or sixteen class periods, and a level change. *Peer Court Questions - Ricky Vigil - 801-597-6842*

The plan is not meant to be punitive, but we need to help our students recognize the importance of attendance, help them change their ways, and let them know there is a consequence. The plan is to begin next semester. The committee will work on the announcement verbiage for the rollout. Joe Pritchard is heading up the committee and would welcome any discussion or suggestions.

Danielle Mecham - are the students aware they can miss that many times - clarification on 28 class periods, 7 days per year.

Ms. Loo also mentioned that this early intervention will help the seniors as they need a cumulative CPA of 2.0 to meet graduation requirements. We want them to take care of this during grades 9-11, not wait until senior year.

Danielle Mecham - is that a lot on the VP's to take on these kids on Saturdays?

Ms. Loo explained that it would happen in the morning hours and there will be a district incentive to be here.

Danielle Mecham indicated that the program seems generous and not punitive. Deonna Weight asked if there were any issues or questions about the program.

Mike Edwards questioned how vacations are handled if there is a parent who works in a different district and has days off that don't align with Granite. Misty Morrow brought up the vacation form that can be filled out and approved by administration before the event. The days don't count against the allotted 28 class periods. The work is not excused and arrangements need to be made ahead of time with the teachers. No one had any further questions or issues.

Deonna Weight moved to the vote on reallocation of funds to cover the ACT, SMART Boards, and Chromebook Carts discussed during the last meeting. Mike Edwards moved for a vote, Ryan Knowlton seconded the motion. All present were in unanimously in favor and the motion passed (absent from vote - Berth Santiago and Serafin Ruiz).

Ms. Loo went on to discuss the master schedule. She explained the process of putting it together based on State Accreditation requirements. She wanted to reach out to the Council for any concerns about the classes we offer (all are State approved). Should we offer something else that would appeal to your students? The GTI has added several great choices for our students.

Danielle Mecham informed the Council that her daughter was attending a course at the GTI not knowing that the same class was offered on campus. Misty Morrow indicated that this happens all the time. Mrs. Mecham would like the students to be informed of the offerings on campus to help with travel time.

Ms. Loo asked the Council to think about any courses they might want and feel free to email them to her. They are in the process of creating the registration cards and matching up the State course numbers.

Mike Edwards - he is aware there is an Auto Shop course, but we don't hear about what is going on in there. He is under the impression that they just look at and identify things, but don't really get hands on. Ms. Loo responded with an explanation of Auto Shop levels 1, 2, and 3. It is level three when they really get into the engine rebuilds and repairs. They need to complete the first two levels in order to get to this point.

Granger High School has the only Auto Body class. Our students can attend there if they choose to. Our Auto Shop program is successful - Tom Glasmann has a double extended schedule because there is so much interest in the program.

Misty Morrow informed the Council that some of the kids can't work on the engines because they have not completed the safety requirements.

Ms. Loo attended the CTE Conference last week and learned about several new programs coming up through high school offerings. Several of these programs will require our teachers to go back for an endorsement in order to teach them. We understand this can be hard as it takes time, money, and time away from their families. There is interest and we are looking into the new program.

Mike Edwards brought up a discussion with John Wellburn regarding Region Five looking at going to a college format, more of an a la carte class schedule. Ms. Loo has been involved in early talks regarding an extended day schedule which will be piloted by Cyprus High School first. The early and late classes would run M-F (6:30-7:15 and 2:30 - 3:15). They are still working out details. Mike Edwards mentioned that they understood that certain classes can only be taught at a certain time, ie Productions Company and that the system can't be perfect. Ms. Loo acknowledged that and stated that they would like to provide more options for class times and. Danielle Mecham mentioned that the high school students are not adults and they should be in school during the times provided. Misty Morrow agreed stating

that their job is to be a student. Mike Edwards brought up the concern that many of our students are working jobs to help their families survive. The Council all understands that need.

Ms. Loo informed the council that graduation rates were released and we went down from an 84% to an 83% graduation rate. The Vice Principals have spoken with the counselors, the faculty has not been informed yet as the information was just released. The school is working hard to meet the 90% by 2020 goal set forth by the state. We are up from 66% seven years ago.

Danielle Mecham wondered what other schools are at - the East side tends to run 84 - 85%, no one is at 90% now. Ms. Loo indicated that the counselors are feeling the heat and Misty Morrow stated that the students should take some of that heat as well.

Deonna Weight asked for any other issues or questions. Danielle Mecham wondered if there were calculators available for the students to check out. Yes there are. Are they aware of this option? Can we have the science and math teachers let the students know this is an option. Ms. Loo will question them to see if there is a need to purchase more for checkouts. Mike Edwards feels like the availability should be similar to the chrome books. Megan Angell also indicated that they can share with the kids how to download calculators on their home computers as well. Danielle Mecham was concerned that the students wouldn't ask - they would need to be told. Misty Morrow brought up a conversation she had with Steve Whatcott, our United Way director, in which she found out families can get a computer through the Granite Education Foundation and cheap or free internet access as well. The same question was posed - do the kids and parents know about this. Mike Edwards suggested a parent meeting to let them know. Ms. Loo indicated that she would email Steve Whatcott and get the information to distribute.

Deonna Weight adjourned the meeting at 5:13. The next meeting will be held January 9th in the Administrative Conference Room.