



Kearns High School

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

School Community Council Meeting Notes

Tuesday, May 14th, 2019

Parent Members Present: Deonna Weight, Jeralyn Kjar, Bertha Santiago

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

Visitors Present: Amanda Rosas

Meeting called to order at 4:30 by Deonna Weight

The roll was signed, agendas distributed, and everyone was welcomed. Deonna asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from last time. Ryan Knowlton motioned to approve the minutes and Misty Morrow seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

The time was turned over to Ms. Loo for updates. She informed the council of a new source of funding from USBE called TSSA – Teacher Student Success Act. The amount of money awarded is related to student ratios - \$231,400 – much like Trust Lands amount last year. The district hopes to make it all one fund in the future, but for next year it will be a stand-alone account. There was a quick turn around for the plan submission – it had to be in by May 31st for district approval.

Ms. Loo attended a training regarding TSSA and took into consideration the SSAP and Trust Lands plans when she wrote up the TSSA plan. She met with Megan Angell to discuss how to distribute the money between the two programs. This year she only needs to inform the council, they will not have a vote on it. She would like the council to reverse the money to pay for an instructional coach from Trust Lands to pay it out of TSSA instead.

Deonna Weight questioned what they would spend that extra money on. Maile responded with extra class periods, and a math teacher's salary. The schedule is almost ready to turn over to the counselors. FTE will be tight next year with our numbers showing at just over 2,300 students. We usually lose around 100 students before the October 1st deadline.

Cheri Jacobson wondered if most of those kids come back. Ms. Loo confirmed this but added that the money does not come back with them after the October 1st date. It will stay at the school they were at. Misty Morrow asked if we would adjust the budget and vote on it next year. Ms. Loo already put it on the agenda for a vote today. Deonna Weight motioned to make the budget adjustment and Ryan Knowlton seconded the vote. Maile Loo voted yes, Megan Angell voted yes, Ryan Knowlton voted yes, Misty Morrow voted yes, Bertha Santiago voted yes, Jeralyn Kjar voted yes, and Deonna Weight voted yes. The budget change was passed. Misty Morrow asked how much money was allocated and Ms. Loo indicated that there was \$125,000 for wages and benefits.

TSSA continued – They were instructed to choose a goal that would best impact the school and she decided to focus on the 9th graders. Ms. Loo believes that if we can prepare and provide resources for these kids, they would be more likely to stay in school and succeed. This focus will help decrease the number of non-proficient scores. The money is tied to a 1% increase in growth on the ACT Aspire. The strategies listed in the plan are:

1 – Hire an Instructional Coach – this coach will work with the 9th grade teachers and attend/provide professional development to help with the growth goals.

2 – Teacher's will perform home visits. This was done before by our school social worker and will better help us understand our student's needs and backgrounds. This knowledge should be reflected in his or her teaching and help with our goals. We will focus on our non-attenders and try to reach out to some of those critical cases. Even if they are

not invited in, we want the parents and students to know we want them at KHS. Teachers can be paid for these visits, but the administration who go with them cannot.

3 – Provide addition FTE to help reduce the number of students in the 9th grade classes to help with collaboration and growth.

These three goals will support the 9th grade students and teachers as well as helping our school. As soon as it is approved by the district it will be sent out to the council.

Ryan Knowlton asked how small the classes would be. Ms. Loo doesn't know for sure as the schedule isn't finalized. They have also moved the Freshman Academy class to a full year that will be taught by Chad Martin, Jill Muir, and Megan Angell.

Misty Morrow questioned what was taught in this class and wondered if we ever do a follow up with the sophomore teachers to see if it helps. Ms. Loo indicated that it would start happening. The class does count for graduation, it has a set curriculum and standards, and there is a lot of focus on study skills as well as college and career readiness skills. It will look different this next year with a full-year offering. Cheri Jacobson added that they had already made some changes as they had not seen the growth they had hoped for. They have a counselor go in each month to work on soft skill lessons. Misty Morrow wondered if it is working. Megan Angell believes it is too early to tell with the new program and believes that we will see more evidence when it moves to the full year class. Misty is concerned because she doesn't feel like she has seen any growth in her junior and senior students with these skills so far. Ms. Loo doesn't think they would put in a program without doing research on the impact it would have. She believes it has the potential to make as much impact as the LIA program has had in graduation rates and participation. Misty would like to see that data charted.

Amanda Rosas asked if there was a program for ESL as well. Ms. Loo discussed it as a separate ESL program ran by one of the best ALP leads. They should take Freshman Academy in addition to ESL classes.

Ryan Knowlton wondered if all 9th graders can take it. Ms. Loo responded that we cannot force them to, but they are highly encouraged. They also removed AVID from the 9th grade to put all our efforts towards Freshman Academy.

Ryan Knowlton asked when the plan would be approved. Ms. Loo believes it will be at the June 7th Board Meeting. She will have it turned in by this Friday for approval. If the goal of 1% is not met a District Accountability Director will meet with Ms. Loo to rework the goals. Again, she believes this will be good for the 9th graders and provide more supports for them early on. Any questions?

Deonna Weight moved onto the opening on the Council next year. We will post opening for the Council on social media, the registration letter, as well as the marquee. Ryan Knowlton asked if we needed more members and Ms. Jacobson asked if there was a cap on members. Ms. Loo indicated that we want as many parents as want to be here. There is not a cap, parent members need to outnumber staff members.

Deonna Weight called for any additional items.

Ms. Loo mentioned that this will be our last year graduating at the Maverik Center. They don't feel like they are being customer friendly with the change of times for graduation. We will have to split our staff during graduation and leave half at the school. We will be graduating at the U next year at 11:00. The district will make the decision on who will graduate on Thursday or Friday. Misty wondered how this would work and what day school will end. Ms. Loo said we will need to wait on the district for that answer.

They also heard from a vendor today and they will be selling lei's outside the Maverik Center and 30% of the profit will come back to the school.

Deonna Weight adjourned the meeting at 4:59 – next meeting in September.