



# Kearns High School

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

## School Community Council Meeting Notes

Tuesday, September 8th, 2020

Parent Members Present: Stephanie Rees, Amy McLaughlin

Staff Members Present: Maile Loo, Megan Angell, Aimee Duran, Cheri Jacobson

Visitors Present: None

Meeting called to order at 4:31 by Ms. Loo.

Everyone was welcomed to and thanked for attending our first meeting of the year.

Ms. Loo was hoping that we could elect a Parent Chair and asked for any volunteers. There were no takers. We will be asking the other parents if they would be willing to take the position via email as we need at least four to vote. Ms. Loo informed the parents that she will send the agenda out each month and they are more than welcome to add any items to the agenda as we are always open to suggestions.

Ms. Loo turned the time over to Megan Angell, our Math Department Chair and Data Specialist. Megan informed the Council that the Trustlands budget is \$278,004 for this year. Our goals for this year are:

- 1) Increased graduation rates through the use of hired aides/trackers, PM school (starting in 2nd quarter).
- 2) Reducing class sizes through hiring additional teachers.
- 3) Increased scores on the Aspire and ACT tests through professional development, software, ACT Prep classes, and Chromebook purchases.
- 4) College and Career Awareness through curriculum (AVID, AP, LIA) and technology needs.

Stephanie Rees asked if we saw a decrease in graduation rates last year?

Ms. Loo said that we do not have any official numbers yet, but said that Cheri Jacobson could speak to it as she handled the credit recovery process this summer for our seniors. Cheri believes that there were around 28 seniors in the program and at least 12-15 finished and graduated. She feels like this was quite a success considering what challenges we faced in the spring. Ms. Loo agreed and said that she made sure to call a few to let them know how impressed she was that they made it through. She even offered an aide job to one of them because she felt he could motivate others who may be struggling as well.

We are very proud of how many students succeeded. We know that the spring dismissal led to many high achieving students struggling with classes, let alone our students who need additional support.

Ms. Loo told the Council that we learned a lot this summer and the District put together several teaching resources for our teachers to be successful teaching in both in-person and distance learning platforms.

The Council reviewed the District spreadsheet showing the Covid cases in our schools. Ms. Loo explained how the process of identifying and letting those who have to be quarantined know. As soon

as she is given a name of someone who has tested positive. The name is given to the school nurse and Ben Horsley. Our school nurse turns the name over to our contact at the CDC. Once the name is verified they have to begin contact tracing. Our teachers all provided seating charts so they can be quickly pulled up by any administrator to help with the process. They have spent hours after school and on weekends perfecting this system. It is definitely more challenging when the positive students are seated in the middle of the room as more students have to be quarantined. The number usually ranges between 0-8 depending on the setup of the room. The data sheet currently shows a correct number of eight cases (including staff and students) at Kearns High.

The CDC and Ben Horsley created a letter in English and Spanish to send out to the parents of those students who have been identified through contact tracing. This letter goes to the parent/guardian and the student is not allowed to return to school for fourteen days.

It has been determined that the majority of cases are being contracted outside of the schools during social gatherings. We have had very few issues with students and masks in the building. Each teacher has a few extra masks in the classroom if the students need them and the administration hands them out in the halls as well. The kids have two choices: wear a mask or go on distance learning. We have one student with an exemption and the faculty and staff have been informed not to challenge this student. The number of cases will go down next week as we have some students returning from quarantine. The students must be symptom and medicine free for 24 hours after the fourteen days in order to return.

Parent Teacher conferences cannot be held in person this fall. They will be scheduled through Canyon Creek scheduler and everything will be done by email, phone, or virtual platform. The conferences will still be held from 4-7 pm. Parents will be contacted by teachers explaining the process.

Stephanie Rees asked how the teachers will be able to see so many kids using this method. Ms. Loo replied that we will be meeting with the Leadership Team to help determine how this will be handled. The teachers will let those who are doing well know that they do not need to schedule a meeting unless they feel it is necessary. The meetings will be held to 5 -10 minutes which only allows for 6-10 students per hour.

Ms. Loo asked about the Canyon Creek training for the teachers. Aimee Duran said there will be something soon. Ms. Loo likes the calling idea to help all our parents.

Cheri Jacobson said they will handle CCRPs on a phone call with the parent and student and will send out any additional information through email as needed.

Our students can pull up their midterm on portal so they can be prepared for the conferences.

Stephanie Rees wondered how they would be able to see everyone virtually in that amount of time and was hoping something would go out before conferences to give parents some information they would normally get at conferences. Megan Angell agreed as she has 260 students. Ms. Loo asked her how many she generally sees a night. Megan has seen up to 45 on a busy night. Ms. Loo has seen 66 reported from other teachers from past conferences. Stephnaie Reese commented that it could work with drop-ins, but not with appointments.

Mrs. Angell asked Mrs. Reese if she would like to see an email from the teachers letting them know that they don't need to see them and their student is doing just fine. Mrs. Reese said yes. She wants to be involved and know how her child is doing, but doesn't want to waste anyone's time if it can be done through email. Ms. Loo suggested breaking the class down into levels 1-4 to determine who the teacher would need to speak with. This will also help students connect with the teachers as they can take their

masks off in an empty classroom and visit over the computer screen. We will meet with the Leadership Team and make some decisions.

Ms. Loo moved onto the voting items. We will need to wait on the Parent Chair for now. Ryan Knowlton leaving opened up a faculty position on the council. A vote was held and Aimee Duran is the new representative. She will also take the notes and post them to the website.

Ms. Loo let the Council know that we have some students who are planning on coming back after midterms to face-to-face learning. Our FTE was planned at 2244 students and we were at 2264 this morning. We currently have over 700 students participating in distance learning. A few members of our teams have been put on quarantine due to contact tracing and the coaches are worried. Many team members are considering going on distance learning during their season so they can keep coming to practice and playing in games. There has been some discussion with the CDC about moving the contact tracing numbers down from 14 days out. If they test negative after 7 days they may be able to come back, but nothing has been said officially yet. Positive cases would still stay out the entire 14 days.

Stephanie Rees hopes this will happen as well. 14 days is a long time for a student and what happens if they end up caught up in a contact trace again? it is very frustrating. She believed she had heard other districts were opting out of the 14 day quarantine. Ms. Loo has not heard of that option in our district. Mrs. Reese asked if we had been on the modified schedule would we be able to social distance enough that this would not be an issue. Ms. Loo confirmed that this was true. If we only had half of our students we could socially distance in our classrooms. Stephonie commented on how she would have liked that option better as there would be less exposure. Ms. Loo stated that with the schedule we are on now that a typical classroom would have to be shut down if there are three positive cases in one classroom. We already had that happen. Cheri Jacobson also commented on how much time that is to be gone each time. Mrs. Reese is especially concerned about our seniors missing out on so much.

She also mentioned that all the demands this new way of running things is like another full-time job. Some deadlines we never had trouble meeting have been pushed back.

Final questions were called for and the meeting was adjourned at 5:11.

Next meeting on Tuesday, October 13th, 2020 at 4:30 in the Library.