



# Kearns High School

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

## School Community Council Meeting Notes

Tuesday, January 12th, 2020

Parent Members Present: Jeralyn Kjar, Stephanie Rees, Amy McLaughlin

Staff Members Present: Maile Loo, Misty Morrow, Aimee Duran, Amanda Rosas

Visitors Present: None

Jeralyn Kjar opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. She asked if all had reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. Amy McLaughlin motioned to approve the minutes and Stephanie Rees seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The time was turned over to Ms. Loo. She let the council know that testing was going well and that Kearns High School has become the Test to Stay model school for the state. Ms. Loo has received several phone calls asking about how it went for us.

Ms. Loo's boss came out to go over the budget. Last year we were unsure if TSSA monies would continue. We have been told not to count on it just in case. Trustlands is safe as it is based on enrollment. TSSA covered extra periods, paraeducators, and our Instructional Coach, Janell Allen. She is doing an amazing job and we would like to keep her. Some schools opted for two people in this position, but we are happy with the job she has been doing alone. We are proposing to keep her as a paid staff member. She works with not only our new nineteen teachers, but with our veteran teachers as well. Please keep this proposal in mind as we move ahead.

Trustlands has \$196,179 left. Right now we are waiting on \$26,789 in Smartboards, \$625 in headsets, and \$32,000 in touch Chromebooks. The Chromebooks are on backorder right now. We will keep the money encumbered for them, but the price may go up if they get delayed until next year. This leaves \$163,979.

We are proposing to vote next meeting on paying for the following items:

- 1 - Eight more Smartboards
- 2 - Library Security System so we don't lose more books
- 3 - Mini marquee located outside of the library to advertise new books and happenings in the library

We would also like to plan for the possibility of a team attending the AVID Conference this summer. Last year this came at a cost of \$1,800 per person and we may take as many as eleven people. We will earmark the \$18,000 if this ends up happening.

Ms. Loo asked if there were any questions on the budget - there were no questions.

Ms. Loo moved onto discussing our upcoming Accreditation process. Every six years our school comes up for accreditation. We know that they will be asking for parents to participate in virtual interviews and we are asking that you be prepared and willing to help us with this process. We are hoping to know

more specifics by February. This will be a three day process and you will be contacted by Cognia with a link.

Ms. Loo asked the Council if they have any feedback on the dual learning platforms and how things are going. She wanted the Council to know how happy we are to do the Test to Stay. If students came in who had not registered a phone call was placed home and it was taken care of. ONLY one parent refused to consent and the student was sent home. We found seven positives over the two days.

We are also doing Test to Play each Friday with alternating performing groups each week.

Misty Morrow asked if it would remain up to the parent to allow the students to go on distance learning rather than test to stay. She had ten kids out because of that.

Ms. Loo asked how those students performed during that time.

Mrs. Morrow said they did well and attended through Zoom, but she wondered if there is any protocol on attendance during that time?

Ms. Loo said that they cannot take attendance during those two weeks as it is a choice to move to distance learning for the ten day quarantine period. This choice makes it tough on educators because we want the kids in the classroom, but we have to provide the parents with the choice.

Stephanie Rees commented that she was glad they found the asymptomatic students during this process so they didn't unknowingly spread the virus to others. She also does not love the non-attendance option as attendance is vital in our schools.

Ms. Loo said that all the Principals have been very vocal about this in their meetings as well.

Misty Morrow added that her classes require hands on skills that cannot all be taught virtually and the absences can affect the end of year certifications in her class. She only had one student in class sometimes during the test to stay time. Stephanie Rees agreed and added that classes like woodshop have to have the kids in person as well. She feels like the school is even safer after the test to stay and questions why people would keep their kids out.

Ms. Loo stated that her staff has been doing great things using both platforms the entire year and is trying to maintain a good balance. Mrs. Rees agreed that they are responding well to it considering how the platforms are constantly shifting. Ms. Loo said we all prefer the test to stay over closing and it seems like the parents agree.

Ms. Loo also asked if they had any concerns about safety during Covid. She informed the council that they meet the kids at the door and hand out masks every morning. The kids know that they can't walk in the halls with masks down. They also can't walk and eat - they need to sit and finish their food and then put the mask up and walk the halls. They have only had two battle backs and they informed the kids they could go distance if they won't wear a mask and they backed right down. They are always willing to listen to any suggestions on how they could do better. She also reported that at least half of our staff has received the first round of vaccination.

Stephanie Rees asked if we ever received approval to remove the bathroom doors and Ms. Loo let her know that the district collapsed that idea. Mrs. Rees was disappointed as she felt like that was a good solution to the vaping issue. She asked if there had been less fire alarms? Ms. Loo said there have not been any alarms this year due to vaping and that they check the bathrooms after each break. It has been pretty quiet this year with fights.

Stephanie Rees asked what graduation was going to look like this year. She wanted the council to know how much she liked the drive-up graduation. She did not miss sitting in a venue for four hours.

Ms. Loo let the council know that they have expressed the same thing to the district. We would like to keep the money on site and host the kids here. The hope is to eventually try to have it on the football field depending on Covid restrictions. We need to recoup a bit after spending over \$30,000 in sanitation supplies to keep the faculty and students safe during the pandemic. Stephanie Rees agreed and Amy McLaughlin added that she did not have a graduate last year, but heard from several people how great it was, especially considering how student focused it was.

Ms. Loo moved on to let the Council know that she has turned in her papers for retirement. It has been a long career, six years in San Juan District and 29 in Granite, but she will be forever grateful that her last ten years have been at Kearns High School. She has loved every minute of it - good and bad. She went to Dr. Bates to let him know how much she cares about KHS and who will take her place afterwards. She respects Dr. Bates and what he has done for Granite School District. She wants them to appoint someone who will keep up with the progress we have made as a school.

Ms. Loo feels like it is time to take care of her family and her own health, especially after the difficult year we have all been through. She is the last daughter and she needs to be there for them while she is still healthy.

She believes that the appointment will be made, at the latest, by then end of March. Again, she wants the community to know that she has been very vocal about making sure that our school is taken care of and to get someone in here who cares about our school. She thanked everyone for serving with her on the Council - it has been a great ride.

We will need to reschedule next month's meeting due to PT Conferences on February 9th and 10th. Elizabeth will send out the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:14.

Next meeting on Monday, February 8th, 2021 at 4:30 in the Media Center.