



Kearns High School

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

School Community Council Meeting Notes

Tuesday, December 13th, 2022

Parent Members Present: Amy McLaughlin, Misty Startup, Nikki Davis, Cody Hancuff

Staff Members Present: Danny Stirland, Aimee Duran, Cheri Jacobson

Visitors Present: Telma Vaquez, Flor Isabel, Nicole McDermott

Amy McLaughlin welcomed everyone at 4:35

There were no minutes to approve as we did a meeting via email last month.

The time was turned over to Danny Stirland. He introduced our two PTA leaders who joined us, Telma and Flor. They both have children at KHS as well as in other community schools. Flor also serves on the Kearns Junior High Community Council. Introductions were done around the table and Danny thanked everyone for being here.

The agenda item for today was reviewing our data for the Continuous Improvement Plan - this directly impacts our School Improvement Plan which is funded by Trustlands. He wanted to review the data so we can review the goals and how the money is being spent to help with them. We won't have time to go over all the data, but it can always be viewed on <https://datagateway.schools.utah.gov/>.

Our state level accountability system has been adjusted over the years and is much better than it used to be, but we still feel like there are some issues. They are now measuring growth and working on how we can get back on track. There are two types of data - elementary/junior high, which takes the RISE test at the end of the year, and high schools.

The elementary/junior high breaks down to 37% proficiency on the RISE, 37% growth on the RISE from year to year, 17% growth for the lowest 25%, and 9% ELL proficiency. The high school breaks down to 25% proficiency on the Aspire plus, 25% to growth on the Aspire plus, 11% growth for the lowest 25%, 6% for ELL students, 11% graduation rates, 11% ACT 18 or above, and 11% for advanced coursework.

The Council discussed what happens if the grade is continually low - the bottom 3% of all schools in the state. The school goes into turnaround status - as several in our area have had to do. We do believe that these numbers are highly impacted by socio economic issues.

Last year we had 89.7% participation on our Aspire plus test. We have also seen a rise in our graduation rates. We have had 9th graders for 7 years now. Nicole McDermott asked if having the 9th graders at the high school has made a difference in our graduation rates. Danny believes that we can increase the accountability of the kids, they have more freedom here and the attendance rate has been hit. We do like that they have more options for classes and athletic opportunities.

We have been working on our engagement in class. We brought in a team to help us evaluate where we are and give us strategies to help increase engagement. We have seen increases from last school year to

this year. We use this data to drive our PD time and to set goals. We will continue to update you as our data becomes available.

The time was turned over to the PTA representatives to discuss the program. They are hosting an event on the 19th for the faculty and staff at KHS. They are hoping that it will help increase membership. They are also partnering with the student government group and would like to invite other groups to join them. They only had 54 memberships last year. Amy McLaughlin asked how the students could participate. They can pay the dues of \$7 and attend the meetings. They would also like to see more representatives in our meetings from Spanish speaking parents. They would like to develop a Parents in Action committee. They would like to help around the school as well. As long as they are with an employee at all times they can come in and volunteer. If they will be alone with students they need to get a background check and formally apply. They were directed to contact Jeremy Smith to send this information out.

Amy McLaughlin also asked how they can donate to our food pantry. They are looking for donations of flour, rice, oil, cereal, beans, and sugar. They discussed the time the pantry is open and available for students to come and get snacks and food for the weekend. Amy also asked how they advertise the clothing drives. We would like to start putting them in the parent newsletter. They also clarified that we only service families with students who attend **Kearns High School**.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40

Questions were called for. No additional agenda items were brought up.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 8th at 4:30.