



Kearns High School

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

School Community Council Meeting Notes

Tuesday, January 9th, 2024

Parent Members Present: Cody Hancuff, Flor Isabel, Amy McLaughlin, Vanessa Park, Thelma Vasquez

Staff Members Present: Danny Stirland, Aimee Duran, Riley Crowford

Visitors Present:

Cody Hancuff welcomed everyone at 4:30.

The Council went around and introduced themselves as we have some new members.

Cody called for a motion to approve last month's minutes. Vanessa Park made a motion to approve and Flor Isabel seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.

Flor Isabel reminded everyone that we can see all the information, rules, and procedures for the Council on the following website: <https://schools.utah.gov/schoollandtrust.php>

Cody turned the time over to Danny Stirland to review our spending. We will begin working on next year's plan around March.

Here is a reminder of where the money comes from and how it should be distributed: Trust Lands generate revenue for its beneficiaries through energy & mineral leases, real estate planning, and surface resource use on trust lands. Nearly all of the revenue Trust Lands generates is deposited into the Permanent School Fund. This fund is managed and optimized by the State of Utah School & Institutional Trust Funds Office (SITFO) and has grown from about \$50 million in 1994 to approximately \$3.2 billion today. Each Utah school has an elected School Community Council (SCC) made up of teachers, parents, and the principal, who determine the greatest academic needs at their school and how their allotted trust funds should be spent. The SCC comes up with a plan and submits that to the School Learning and Nurturing Development (LAND) Trust program.

Mr. Stirland reviewed each spending category, what we have been using it for, and the amount allocated to that category. That information can be found [here](#). He was happy to report that we met our school overall growth goal last year (*Kearns High School will increase the total School Accountability Point Percentage by 2%. School Accountability Points are determined by these seven categories: Proficiency, Growth, Aspire +, ACT, Graduation Rates, WIDA, and Advanced Course Work*).

We have been allotted \$292,000 based on our student enrollment. Our main spending has been in salaries, software, and technology purchases. We also discussed the use of funds to pay for AP tests and certifications. The cost is covered for all students. They will only have to pay the cancellation fee if they back out of the test.

Amy McLaughlin asked some follow up questions about signing up for the AP tests. She was directed to have her student check with his AP teacher to see if he had signed up.

Danny moved on to discuss the hope to purchase new security cameras for our building. These cameras cannot be purchased out of Land Trust funds as they do not fall into student academic improvement goals. The building was evaluated and the cost will be \$150,000 to get a sufficient system. They also tried to pay for it out of our ESSR funds, but were turned down by the state. Danny has reached out to the Assistant Superintendent over Facilities to see if we can get some help.

Thelma Vasquez offered the support of the PTA for signatures and stressed how important this topic is to the association.

Cody Hancuff wondered if we had to get them from a specific company, or if we could reach out to Vivint or some other company to see if they would be willing to sponsor Kearns with this type of purchase.

Flor Isabel also suggested reaching out to the Kearns Coalition, as they are always looking out for the safety of our youth.

Danny said he would follow up with the District and will consider exploring the other options.

It was verified that next month's meeting will not interfere with Parent Teacher Conferences as they will be held on February 6th and 7th and Council is on the 13th.

Vanessa Park asked if we had seen the option for the program to translate what the teacher is saying into Spanish. She wondered if we were going to utilize it for our students to help raise test scores. Danny has seen it and spoken with Mr. Busath about it. We are hoping to see more of it as it moves through a pilot phase.

Amy McLaughlin had some questions about graduation. Mr. Stirland informed us that Jostens was out last fall and more information about the process will come out early spring. Graduation is scheduled for Friday, May 24, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. It will be held at the Maverik Center.

She also had some questions about scholarships for out of state. We discussed the Canvas scholarship course that all students have access to.

We would like to see the Parent Newsletter and/or call home messaging come back. Many students do not inform their parents of things happening, like the FAFSA Night, and they don't always see everything on social media.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 13th.