



Matheson Junior High Community Council

March 30th, 2020 / 3:30 PM Via Zoom



Attendees:

Visitors:

Cindy Thomsen, Chair	X	Jennifer Christensen, Principal	X	Lisel Zito, Parent	X	Amy Benitez, Parent	X		
Jennifer Johnson, Co-Chair	X	Rachel Zollinger, Parent		Bobby Brown, Teacher	X	Paige Thornock, Parent	X		
Zach Dickison, Secretary	X	Robert Goodick, Parent	X	Melanie Soledade, Teacher	X	Aaron Weight, Parent	X		

Topic	Topic Lead	Meeting Notes	Outcomes/Action Items
Welcome and Introductions:	Cindy Thomsen	Time: 3:35 pm. Eventful month, grateful for the community support we have. We have been working hard to try to make things accessible and ready for students.	
February Minutes: Review/Approval	Zach Dickison	On Zach's broken computer unfortunately.	Will email out to everyone when the computer is fixed.
Land Trust:	Jennifer Christensen	Goal: increase proficiency growth by 5% in core classes based on RISE testing. increase RI points by 100 measured by RI. Prize drawing incentives for students with RI scores improving by 100 points. English teachers will figure this out and do a video to celebrate the growth. Teachers are happy with the results they have seen. For this plan we will be comparing RISE data from last year instead of this year for next year's goal. Smaller class sizes are helpful. Extra FTE for SPED department. Funding for a school data specialist.	

		<p>We have been paying for teachers to have quarterly planning days. Substitute issues made it difficult to accomplish this.</p> <p>Proposed CHANGES: Have planning days during the summer. Teachers will be paid a stipend for it and they can pre plan in the summer while making adjustments throughout the year. We can save more money overall this way. These teachers can still analyze data during PLCs. Fund a full-time sub at Matheson to help with various instruction, behavior, supervision, etc.</p> <p>Printed materials for binders funded instead of printed materials for student led conferences since those are moved to online.</p> <p>Some issues with trying to schedule a 7th grade college tour. Other options: a transition tour to Cyprus instead of 7th grade college tour? Maybe a GTI tour? Parents preferring to still have college tours for 7th graders. The more exposure to colleges the better. Cyprus/GTI with a college focus is a good backup plan. Can maybe have more luck if we adjust our timeline.</p> <p>Buses - not a lot of students use the after school bus even though we are paying for it. One option is to have buses only come a few days a week. After school programs could have better consistency to better help students utilize the bus.</p> <p>Can amp up after school tutoring advertising so more students take advantage of after school bus.</p> <p>We will be able to use the seminary building for the after school program.</p>	<p>Plan explanation with changes at this point still fits the budget and is supported overall</p>
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		<p>Funding AVID conference for teaching training is part of the plan. AVID is one of the best teacher training programs. Will cost a lot of money to maintain AVID, including binders for students moving forward.</p> <p>More funds for additional Chrome carts.</p>	<p>Jen will send a rough draft word doc of proposed changes to the Land Trust Plan to council members. We can email our feedback to her. We will then be able to vote by email to agree or not with the new proposed plan afterwards.</p>
Follow up-District CC meeting	Robert Goodick	<p>Reconfiguration all decided by community councils, 75% majority. Some talk about moving 6th graders to junior highs for certain networks. Could cause some issues for families with students going to various schools. Would like to see all of the district reconfigured at the same time for more continuity. Interesting to see what happens. Get involved if you can to advocate for positive change.</p>	
Proficiency-Based Grading (PBG):	All	<p>9th graders struggling to keep up with homework. Could it be a result of PBG previously?</p> <p>Required learning activities?</p> <p>Teachers can emphasize its importance for further learning in high school and beyond.</p>	
Successes/Concerns:	All	<p>No RISE testing this year and most likely not Benchmark testing this year. Waiting to officially hear more. Teachers will decide or not if they want to do benchmarks.</p> <p>Survey sent out via blackboard and weekly blurb on communication and assignments online.</p> <p>Additional guidance from the district: students should have 90 minutes of</p>	

		<p>instructional experience per class per week. Teachers feel better about this and feel it is more doable for students.</p> <p>Parents: how has work been for your students?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Been pretty good. Teachers have been responding fast and are helpful. Worried about parents who are not as technologically savvy.- Overall things have been really well. Stress with students who need to do assignments every single day in some classes.- Would be helpful if teachers can help students/parents get more organized online. <p>Would a weekly checklist be helpful?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Put yourself in the shoes of parents. Concerned that some students fall out of 4th quarter because of the difficulties.- Putting it in the weekly blurb might be too much. <p>Announcements on Canvas would be helpful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Weekly things due instead of daily things would be helpful.- Video chats and other interactions would be helpful for students to see each other and interact.- Keeping it simple is better, especially for students who are struggling or who have struggled in the past. <p>Teachers marked on a spreadsheet students who have been participating/made contact with them in</p>	
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		<p>some way in their classes with distance learning. We do not want to lose anybody. We will check in with students and families we have not been hearing from.</p> <p>Some parents feel PE has been a struggle with everything going on. More difficult to do things and monitor when you are at home.</p>	<p>PE teachers (and all teachers) are constantly reevaluating to figure out best practices with distance learning.</p>
Close:		<p>Time: 4:50 pm. Robert motion, Zach 2nd.</p>	

Thanks for serving on the MJHS School Community Council!

Next Meeting: April 27th @ 3:30 PM via Zoom

***The meetings of the Matheson Junior High School Community Council are open to the public. Time is allotted at the end of each meeting for community comment. Each speaker is allowed a maximum of three minutes to address the council. Comments must be related to current agenda topics or ones addressed by the council at previous meetings. Speakers must pre-arrange their opportunity to address the council by emailing Cindy McCleve at cmccleve@graniteschools.org.