

William Penn Elementary School Community Council Meeting Agenda
February 22nd 2024 and March 12th, 2024
7:30-8:30am

February 22nd, 2024

Call meeting to order/review minutes: Loni Richards

Attendees: Rachel Allen, Sarah Struss, Loni Richards, Sidsie Drysdale, Katie Knudson, Mason Addison, Natalie El-Deiry, Dr. Higgins, Carola Booth, Rachel Allen,

Guests: City of Millcreek

City Council Member Sherri Jackson

City Council Member Silvia Catten

City Engineer – John Miller (Contacts Info: jmiller@millcreekut.gov, 801-214-2719)

AGENDA

Motion to approve the minutes

Motioned: Sidsie Drysdale

Seconded: Katie Knudson

1. Principal report - no immediate updates.
2. Parking and traffic on Orchard Drive
 - John Miller, City Engineer for the City of Millcreek and other guests (noted above) attended the meeting to discuss the safe walking route
 - Council members outlined the shared concerns of the cross walk for an estimated 160 students who go through the catwalk and how to work with the city to address.
 - Council members proposed having a direct one-way driving route, around the inner circle, during certain school hours to allow for students to safely walk to the catwalk.
 - Mr. Miller responded by sharing that almost all schools have similar problems, and that traffic congestion before and after school times helps to mitigate other challenges because parents are driving more cautiously.
 - Council members requested a crossing guard last March (2023) at the board meeting. Principal Higgins did not receive a response to the request.
 - If the issues is not addressed, the Community Council can recommend the crosswalk be closed; however, the closing the catwalk would push safety concerns to other areas

- Mr. Miller, Millcreek Council Members, and William Penn Council members brainstormed other ways to address the challenge including talking to parents directly and/or handing out flyers to request their participation in addressing safety concerns, alternative routes, etc. or risk closing the crosswalk. Millcreek offered to assist, as needed, including providing a logo to show coordination and collaboration on the effort.
- A direct parent outreach effort would allow them to test the recommended route process, or other efforts, to see if safety concerns change. There is also the potential to put signage to help direct traffic and for the SRO from Evergreen to help direct traffic and share information with parents.
- If residents want a more direct intervention they would need to petition the neighbors for signage, one-ways, etc
- Millcreek Council members invited the group to the East Millcreek Community Council meeting, first Thursday of the month, at Adventure Hub to share priorities and ask for signage to be put onto a project list.
- Community Council suggested the next step is to draft a letter to send to Millcreek City council if they'd like to take further action with the city
- Mr. Miller offered for Council Members to work with him directly moving forward and provided his direct contact info.
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3. LAND Trust Items

- Land Trust plans are due next month. The Council needs to review items for submission and recommendations in upcoming meetings to continue the agenda on March 12th for continued discussion on FTE and March 28th to discuss action steps for the plan.
- Dr. Higgins reviewed school data to help Community Council Members to help assess school needs. Data is from the USBE [School Report](#)
 - Reviewed demographic information that showed an increase in ELL students, students with disabilities, free and reduced lunch eligible students. The Hispanic population has gone down.
 - William Penn will be recognized at Granite Board meeting in March for the school having the most growth and achievement in the district.
 - Some of the contributing factors include more stability with staff, teachers working as a team and stronger collaboration, better understanding of the resources.
 - A significant area of growth and achievement was for ELL students who demonstrated growth in proficiency, the result of intensive support with these students.
 - Early literacy was identified as an area of potential investment.
 - 70% of 3rd grade students will be reading at grade level by 2027 (current kindergarten students)
 - 77% of students making typical or better progress, WP goal was 80% for this year.

- Students reading on grade level has gone down from 61% to 55%. This is measured by the Acadience reading tests.
 - The Council discussed ideas to address early literacy including summer reading challenges to help reduce the drop in reading levels during summer months, and kindergarten enrollment packs to encourage incoming students to have skills needed to be on track for 1st grade reading milestones.

Agenda continued from February meeting

March 12th, 2024

7:30-8:30am

Attendees: Loni Richards, Sidsie Drysdale, Katie Knudson, Adam Gray, Natalie El-Deiry, Dr. Higgins, Carola Booth

Agenda

1. Review Enrollment Projections
 - Kindergarten - projection 54 students (includes 28 permits)
 - 1st grade - projection 85 students, 60 DLI, 21 traditional
 - 2nd grade - 125 students, 99 DLI, 24 traditional, 3 permits
 - 3rd grade - 128 students, 105 DLI, 15 traditional, 5 permits for traditional
 - 4th - 125, 99 DLI and 27 traditional
 - 5th - 98, 72 DLI and 26 traditional
 - Total 615 students, staffing ratio is 27.25, FTE is 22.5 for K-5
 - There are currently 26 FTE, so there is a surplus of staffing versus the FTE available for next year
 - Staff reductions will be covered by attrition, two teachers are retiring and one is on one-year contract (ending this school year)
 - The Land Trust funds will be used to ensure there are two kindergarten teachers instead of 1.5, as currently budgeted
 - If another teacher is needed in the fall for 1st grade, the plan is to use TSSA funds to bring on another teacher.
2. Discussion
 - Opportunity to promote recruitment of traditional students to the William Penn student body by highlighting growth and achievement ratings
 - The school needs more kindergarten and 1st grade students for traditional program to bring in more teachers
 - The group reviewed data comparisons for William Penn and other area schools on the [Data Gateway](#)
 - Other points to highlight include a diverse student body, additional programs like art, dance, drama, chess, strong ELL program, and recognitions in growth and achievement
 - Dr. Higgins shared the “Come Grow with Us” campaign they did a few years ago

- Current parents are the best ambassadors and the school could highlight school success in weekly emails (ie: recognition at the Granite School Board meeting in March)
 - The Council members agreed to identify a small group to come up with messaging to be included on a banner, yard signs and social media tile that the district communications team can help design or use council members experience to develop tools
 - Also discussed updates to the website in the “Why choose WP” section
 - The next council meeting will have an extra 30 minutes for the group to meet
3. District Community Council meeting
- Tuesday, March 14th, Natalie El-Deiry will attend

Motion to adjourn meeting

Motioned:

Seconded: