

Skyline High Community Council

Minutes of 4/8/21 Meeting

In Attendance:

Katie Dahle, Emeliee Dirks, Malia Groesbeck, Jessica Kerr, Tayler Khater, Kim Lovato, Mitch Nerdin, Monisha Pasupathi, Kim Paulding, Karianne Prince, Brodie Reid, Jennie Soulier
Guests: France Barral, Tim Mundt, Joe Rogan

1. Meeting Minutes
 - a. Jennie Soulier made a motion to approve the March 11, 2021 Skyline High Community Council Meeting minutes. Brodie Reid seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Play Productions
 - a. *The Wise Men of Chelm* by Sandra Asher
 - i. This play was proposed as a spring production. Jennie Soulier and Kim Paulding read the play.
 - ii. The play was discussed by the Council.
 - iii. Monisha Pasupathi made a motion to approve the *The Wise Men of Chelm* as a Spring 2021 production. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Disney's *Newsies*
 - i. This musical was proposed as the Fall Musical for the 2021-2022 school year. Emeliee Dirks read the play.
 - ii. Appreciation was expressed to Mr. Rogan for choosing to produce this musical.
 - iii. The play was discussed by the Council.
 - iv. Emeliee Dirks made a motion to approve *Newsies* as the Fall Musical for the 2021-2022 school year. Malia Groesbeck seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
 - c. Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
 - i. This play was proposed as the Spring play for the 2021-2022 school year. Malia Groesbeck read the play.
 - ii. The play was discussed by the Council.
 - iii. Malia Groesbeck made a motion to approve *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as the Spring Play for the 2021-2022 school year. Monisha Pasupathi seconded the motion. Emeliee Dirks called for a vote. Karianne Prince had some connectivity issues with Zoom and asked Emeliee, the Council Vice-Chair, to facilitate the voting. Emeliee Dirks called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Land Trust
 - a. Skyline will receive funding from three sources next year.
 - i. Land Trust funds total \$275,254
 - ii. Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) funds total \$139,606
 - iii. Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER), part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), funds total \$308,842

- b. The Needs Assessment Survey results were sent to the Community Council and the Leadership Team. Members from both entities responded with their top five items.
- c. The top needs are;
 - i. Mental Health
 - ii. Science Scores
 - iii. Maintain AP/IB Scores
 - iv. Help Failing Students
 - v. Provide Support for Core Students
 - vi. Chromebooks
 - vii. Proficiency Based Learning (PBL)
- d. Smart Goal #1
 - i. Reduce percentage of students not reaching proficiency by 10% on state assessments.
 - ii. English Language Arts move from 70% to 73%
 - iii. Math move from 60% to 64%
 - iv. Science move from 44% to 50%
 - v. It was asked how these goals relate to a few years ago.
 - 1. These goals are a little more ambitious by 1% or so.
 - vi. This goal addresses the following needs:
 - 1. Mental Health
 - 2. Science Scores
 - 3. Help Failing Students
 - 4. Provide Support for Core Students
- e. Smart Goal #2
 - i. Graduation rate from 94.4% to over 95%.
 - ii. This goal addresses the following needs:
 - 1. Help Failing Students
 - iii. The current percentage of students on target to graduate in 2021 is 80%-85%. It was asked how many students are currently not on track to graduate. It is about 25 students.
 - iv. Administration is deploying several things to help struggling students get to where they need to be.
- f. Smart Goal #3
 - i. Increase percentage of students taking vigorous coursework from 91.8% to 93%. This includes CTE Pathway courses which lead to certification, AP courses, and IB courses.
 - ii. It was asked how achievable this goal is.
 - 1. This goal was described as being achievable by encouraging students to take rigorous coursework.
- g. It was asked if these goals are attainable.
- h. Mental Health support helps students to become able to complete coursework and be successful.
- i. Content for professional development over the summer will include Science specific training. The Skyline Leadership Team will use a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) to build a more robust support system.

- j. PBIS RISE Ambassadors will be selected from the student body. There will be monthly activities for the community, guest speakers, and activities all school year.
- k. Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) was discussed. This program would push students to take more rigorous courses and provide a support system. Freshman Success and Study Skills classes would utilize this program.
- l. Summer Boot Camp will include writing curriculum and creating assessments. Teachers will be paid their Lane and 6th Step rate.
- m. Credit Recovery is a challenge. It is obtainable, but it is challenging.
 - i. Teachers are motivated and feel supported by the Administration.
 - ii. Ghosts are students who have disappeared. They need home visits.
 - iii. Seniors who are willing to put in the effort will graduate.
 - iv. Teachers are going to be recruited to work after school with kids.
 - 1. Students will go their English Teacher.
 - 2. Critical items will be taught after school.
 - 3. Teachers will seek out students to redo work or turn in missing coursework for each quarter.
 - 4. Credit Recovery will be an option.
- n. Instructional Coaching
 - i. Teachers were hired this year to provide instructional coaching during an extra period. This will not be allowed next year.
 - ii. FTE for an Instructional Coach will be allocated to augment what has already been done.
 - iii. During the Pandemic, teachers learned a dual modality system.
 - iv. It was very beneficial to have Instructional Coaches in the building.
 - v. Quick response from the in-school team was very beneficial.
 - vi. Now that teachers have CANVAS skills and the pandemic is hopefully leaving, we won't need to do this again.
 - vii. The observations that were conducted in classrooms were a pretty powerful success.
 - viii. Teachers feel supported.
 - ix. It is understood why the District wants to do this in a different way but this year was successful.
- o. Psychologist
 - i. The half-time Psychologist is scheduled to be funded by ESSER funds. These are non-renewable funds so this funding will need to be reviewed every year.
- p. Social Worker
 - i. A full-time Social Worker is being funded by Granite School District. Skyline specific enrollment needs show 0.9 FTE which was rounded to 1.0 FTE.
 - ii. The Council expressed its gratitude for the Social Worker position and asked where they could send a note of thanks. Karianne Prince will send an e-mail to Judy Petersen, Director of College & Career Readiness, Student Learning and Support.
- q. The College Access Advisor works in the Career Center. There is a contract with the University of Utah to provide this additional resource.

- i. It was asked if there will be a new person every year.
 - 1. It is possible that there will be a new person every year but we may be able to keep the same person for next year.
 - 2. It does take time to mentor the person assigned to this position. Usually, they are a new graduate.
- r. Para-Educators
 - i. These employees work as student success advocates and parent liaisons. They find students and help those Ghost Students who are not engaged.
- s. NHS Tutoring and ACT Prep Teachers will continue to be paid.
- t. Chromebooks
 - i. Chromebooks will be issued to students who will keep them the entire time they are at Skyline.
- u. Extra Periods
 - i. The cost for Extra Periods is about \$95,000. These can be used but they are not super valuable. Reducing class size does not make a big difference.
 - ii. It was asked if we have teachers who would teach these extra periods.
 - 1. There are teachers willing to work extra periods.
- v. If teachers are resistant to professional development offerings, expenditures could be swapped with ESSER or TSSA funding. It is hard for teachers to give up their time. Teachers may be more interested in participating if we pay them as handsomely as we can to show that we value their time and make it valuable to them.
- w. ESSER funds are one big grant of \$616,000 paid over 27 months. We will utilize half of these funds for the 2021-2022 school year and the other half for the 2022-2023 school year. All of these funds must be spent by the end of 2023.
- x. Appreciation was expressed for a view of the big picture including all of the funding, not just Land Trust. It was mentioned that the plan looks great.
- y. This has been an unusual year. Are we doing everything possible to help with Mental Health?
 - i. The Psychologist and Social Worker are a great beginning.
 - ii. Monthly RISE-centered activities along with RISE Ambassadors will be much bigger parts of what we are doing at Skyline day to day.
 - iii. Para-Educators will be calling parents and students to help them individually.
 - iv. Ghost Students
 - 1. This may not be the best description for non-engaged students.
 - 2. The graduation rate has been 95% in the past.
 - 3. Current seniors on pace to graduate are now in the 80% range.
 - 4. The Pandemic has pushed 5% not on pace to graduate to 15-20%.
 - 5. We are not leaving these students to a small group, this issue is being pushed to all of the faculty.
 - 6. Some students are "Ghosting" one class only. This is harder to track. Many are Distance Learners.

7. The focus from now to the end of the school year is seniors. We have nine weeks to get all these seniors to the finish line.
- z. Land Trust Plan Approval
 - i. Kim Paulding made a motion to approve the Land Trust expenditures as presented by Mitch Nerdin. Jessica Kerr seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
 - aa. Kim Lovato was asked to send the PowerPoint that was presented by Mitch Nerdin to the Council after the meeting.
 - bb. It was mentioned that there is a monthly reminder about Land Trust for all those schools who have too much carryover. This reminder included a note that Skyline has spent all of their Land Trust funds for this year.
4. Graduation
 - a. The University of Utah Huntsman Center contract was cancelled. Graduations were set to be held on site.
 - b. Granite School District sent a poll to seniors asking their preference for graduation at one of three places: option one was at the University of Utah, option two was at the schools, and option three was a traditional ceremony without parents. Skyline had 250 respondents with 48% wanting the ceremony to be at Skyline.
 - c. A second survey was sent on April 7th and included two options. Option one would be in the Sandy Amphitheater and option two would be on the Skyline baseball field.
 - d. After the April 7th survey was sent, a new option became available at Rio Tinto Stadium. There will be a new poll sent out with that option.
 - e. The Sandy Amphitheater was discussed with concerns that there would be no way to have social distancing and no way that 2000 people would fit in the seating area.
 - f. It was mentioned that while negotiating with Rio Tinto, the parking lot should also be included in the rental.
 - g. The seniors have an appetite to have a traditional experience.
 - h. Masks will be required no matter the rules of the venue.
 - i. It was asked if there would be COVID-19 testing or proof of vaccination required for the graduation ceremony. This will not be a requirement because masks are required at all times. Activities like dances will require testing but graduation does not.
 - j. Different survey techniques were discussed.
 - k. It was asked if there would be vaccinations held for students at the high schools.
 - i. There are no plans at this time to vaccinate students at the high schools.
 - l. Holding a car parade at the school and a traditional graduation ceremony was suggested.
5. New Building
 - a. The Baseball Team likes the new field. They are ranked 10th in 5A.
 - b. The Softball field on the west side of the school will be moved to the east.
 - c. A new fence will be installed with a mow strip on the west side.
 - d. Errant fly balls will no longer be going into family yards.
 - e. Batting cages with much higher netting and fences will be installed.

- f. There will be a fence and retaining wall installed along the west side. All houses will get a new, rock-looking fence. The ground will be raised substantially and an attractive retaining wall will be put in place for the west side neighbors as opposed to the current chain link fence. This is a big deal for patron neighbors.
 - g. The Relo Village is coming to fruition.
 - h. The Cafeteria will be moved early and will be in place for three years.
 - i. A wall will be built in "A" Building and around the construction area.
 - j. "C" Building will begin moving to the Relo Village at about the first of May with student support. "C" Building will come down this summer.
 - k. Relocatable classrooms have been investigated by teachers. They know what they need to bring and to move.
 - l. The construction schedule keeps lengthening. The New Building Sub-Committee has specifically asked for a shortened schedule. The Academic and Performing Arts phases will both be bid two ways. One with the current schedule, and one with a shortened schedule. The Sub-Committee will talk about it and push to see if there are other options.
 - m. It was asked if the number of incoming Freshman students are fewer for next year.
 - i. The numbers of incoming Freshman students are higher.
 - n. It was asked where the Softball team will be moved while their field is under construction.
 - i. The Softball Team will play at the fields on 1300 East and 3500 South.
 - o. The football stadium should be done on time. The first game will be televised along with the Skyline vs. Olympus game.
6. Staff Changes
- a. The following teachers will be leaving Skyline: Irma Hofer, Curtis Houston, Dany Aliyev, Tayler Khater, and Mike Carlson.
7. Granite School District Superintendent Search
- a. The Granite School District Board of Education will hold final interviews next Friday and announce the replacement after that. The start date is June 1, 2021.
 - b. It was asked if the Board will follow what Salt Lake City School District did and announce finalists before the final decision is made. The community is not scheduled to be involved until the announcement.
 - c. The process included community member feedback.
 - d. It was mentioned that there are internal and external candidates.

Next Meeting – May 13, 2021