

# Skyline High Community Council

## Minutes of 10/14/21 Meeting

### In Attendance:

Juan Arce-Larreta, Katie Dahle, Malia Groesbeck, Alisa Hamblin, Kylee Joyce, Kim Lovato, Monisha Pasupathi, Karianne Prince, Brodie Reid, Alexander Smith

Guests: Julie Jackson, Tim Mundt, and Jody Lynn Tolley

Excused: Jessica Kerr, Mitch Nerdin

1. Meeting Minutes
  - a. Brodie Reid made a motion to approve the September 22, 2021 Skyline High Community Council Meeting minutes. Monisha Pasupathi seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
2. ASL Play
  - a. The proposed American Sign Language (ASL) Play, *Swamp Pirate Zombies* by Andrew Ross was discussed.
  - b. Alex Smith made a motion to approve the ASL play, *Swamp Pirate Zombies*. Kylee Joyce seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
  - c. The ASL Play will be presented on January 21<sup>st</sup>.
3. Safe Technology
  - a. The Safe Technology discussion will be held at the November meeting.
4. Land Trust Plan
  - a. A needs assessment was conducted for the current Land Trust Plan.
    - i. The needs assessment included surveys, data, and working with the Community Council, teachers, and students.
  - b. The needs identified were:
    - i. Mental Health
    - ii. Science Scores – This is not about the science teachers, it is more systemic and throughout the District. We have hired an Instructional Coach, who has a background in science to assist with this issue. It has been found that so much of the state testing is based on skills but the standards are not as skill driven.
    - iii. Maintain AP/IB Success
    - iv. Help Failing Students
    - v. Provide Support for Core Students
    - vi. Chromebooks
    - vii. Proficiency Based Learning
  - c. Utah rates schools according to certain criteria.
    - i. Points weighted to overall score:
      1. Achievement 25%
      2. Growth 25%
      3. English Learner Progress 6%
      4. Growth of Lowest 25% 11%
      5. Postsecondary 33%
    - ii. Growth is such a large part of the criteria.

- iii. ASPIRE and ACT testing are measurements.
  - iv. Grading for schools has not accounted for high level courses in the past.
  - v. Students were opting out of the ASPIRE testing in the past so they could focus on the AP and IB testing.
  - vi. Now the postsecondary rating includes ACT and high level courses like AP, IB, and CTE courses.
  - vii. ACT is now administered at the school. That is a change from the past.
    - 1. This year it will be administered on March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Land Trust Goals
- i. Goal 1
    - 1. Skyline will reduce the percentage of students not reaching proficiency by 10% on state assessments.
    - 2. Language Arts will move from 70% to 73%
    - 3. Math will move from 60% to 64%
    - 4. Science will move from 44% to 50%
  - ii. Goal 2
    - 1. Raise graduation rate from 94.4% to over 95%.
    - 2. Last year was a tough year. Teachers worked tirelessly. Considering where we were third quarter, we ended with a very high graduation rate. Appreciation was expressed for the teachers, students, and Credit Recovery Team. The process was streamlined and improved and it was better for the kids. Last year the focus was on the senior class. Now we are working on the failing classes due to the pandemic. The graduation rate includes students who dropped out before their senior year.
    - 3. It was asked what the graduation rate at other high schools was. It was mentioned that the average is about 80%.
    - 4. It was asked if there was pressure to make a goal about graduation rates. It was stated that the ultimate goal is to get the students to graduate. We feel pressure to have every student graduate.
    - 5. It was stated that if we listed the top three problems that Skyline has, this would not be one of them. It was asked if we have the goal because things like mental health are harder to measure.
    - 6. It was stated that about 10 years ago, there was a lot of focus on AP and IB but we were pushing so hard with our upper level students that the core level students were being left behind. It was decided that we need to focus on all students. This goal represents maintaining that focus.
    - 7. Ethnic and racial gaps were discussed. There is data showing that there are gaps in this area but closing those gaps is not represented. This was addressed when this plan was put in place last year and it is something that we will continue to address.
    - 8. It was asked what the special permit rate is at the school. It was stated that it is about 45%. There was a discussion regarding special permits.
    - 9. Credit Recovery was an after-school program once a week. Now it has been moved into the master schedule so that those students have in-class support.
    - 10. Mental health is at the top of our concerns. We have to be addressing mental health so that the students can be successful in other areas.

11. Great Lunches is a program presented by the PTSA that encourages positive mental health.
  12. Integrity will be addressed at the Skyline/Olympus football game as part of the RISE (Resilience, Integrity, Support, and Excellence) program.
  13. National presenters are training teachers on student non-attendance days.
    - a. We have a presenter coming at the quarter break to help in developing and improving the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to reach those students who are struggling, assist with social-emotional areas, and improve student scores.
  14. Proficiency was discussed.
    - a. It was suggested that we hold a high bar for proficiency.
    - b. It was also suggested that a school that is extraordinarily successful would have a vision for basic proficiency. It was mentioned that this has been discussed in the past and that the Council is proud of the teachers and grateful to the counselors for helping with this.
    - c. This leads into Goal 3.
  - e. Goal 3
    - i. Increase the percentage of students taking rigorous coursework from 91.8% to 93%.
    - ii. This includes AP, IB, and CTE Pathways.
  - f. We do not have a College Access Advisor right now. We have not been able to hire one and this cost is now going to be paid for by the state so there is some savings there that can be used elsewhere.
  - g. There has been some additional need for extra periods but they will come from other funding sources.
  - h. An extra period is when a teacher teaches one or two additional periods above a full-time load which is six classes and two preparation periods. There was discussion about extra periods.
  - i. Social Worker – We have a half time person but we are looking for a full time Social Worker.
5. Teacher and Student Success Act (TSSA) and Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding was discussed.
  6. Funding Ideas
    - a. Clubs and PTA
      - i. Financially supporting school clubs and the PTA was discussed.
      - ii. It was decided that Juan Arce-Larreta would attend the PTA meetings to see if there is anything that the Community Council can do to support the PTA.
  7. Mental Health at Skyline
    - a. Mental health was discussed.
    - b. Appreciation was expressed for past Community Councils' acting to pay for half of a contract for a full-time school psychologist.
    - c. The parents have really been supportive and kept the teachers going.
    - d. Mental health relief for teachers was suggested and discussed.
    - e. It was stated that the Community Council wants teachers to have longevity, to last for 30 years not just a few years.
    - f. It was suggested that mental health for the staff also be included in the discussion.

- g. There will be a presenter at the next teacher meetings after fall break that will be giving strategies for improving mental health.
8. Credit Recovery
- a. It would be great if we could identify the struggling freshman students now and get them into the MTSS program earlier. We could also discuss holding Freshman Success classes during second semester to help with early intervention.
  - b. Reviewing extra periods and their effect on teachers would be beneficial.
  - c. Appreciation was expressed for the efforts of all of the teachers.
9. Items to be discussed at the next meeting regarding Land Trust funding for 2021-2022:
- a. Mental health of teachers and staff.
  - b. How we can use credit recovery more effectively. What can we do to expand it?
  - c. Anything the Council can do, working with the school, to support clubs, PTSA, and other things that will enhance the experience of the students and faculty at Skyline.
  - d. Coordinate with the faculty for assistance with special projects, community, psychological well-being, classroom supplies.
  - e. When students were asked about what could be done to make things better, they said that they wanted more clubs.
10. Scheduling Process
- a. It was mentioned that this year the scheduling process was different.
  - b. The mass schedule change day received positive feedback from the teachers and students.
  - c. Keeping the class changes to a shorter window was very effective.
  - d. We don't have enough classrooms to add teachers right now.
    - i. The space issue is a problem.
    - ii. Having students able to find the teacher before and after school is important.
11. Julie Jackson, Granite School District Board Member
- a. Ms. Jackson wanted to let the Community Council know that she is available to them and they can contact her.
  - b. This is an effort to make the District more bottom up instead of top down.
  - c. If there is an issue at Skyline, she forwards it to the school administration to handle.
  - d. If there is a policy issue, she will push it to the Community Council and empower them to be aware of and resolve the issue.
  - e. The District Community Council will be comprised of members of the School Community Councils.
    - i. They would like a member of each School Community Council to attend the District meeting. The first one will be October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the District offices.
    - ii. Alisa Hamblin volunteered to attend the meeting and report back to the Council.
    - iii. This should bring collaboration between the schools.
    - iv. Julie Jackson will reach out to the Skyline Council to find out what the Council feels should be addressed and discussed. She will then take the items to the Board and bring responses back to the Council.
    - v. This is designed to help the Board make better policy.
    - vi. It was mentioned that this is a public meeting and if more members of the Council want to go to the meeting, they are welcome to attend.
  - f. Ms. Jackson asked if there was anything the Council would like her to take back to the Board.

- i. The Council requested that the mental health of students, faculty, and staff be reported as an issue that is important and should be addressed.
  1. Ms. Jackson stated that she has found that this is not a problem at the elementary level in the Skyline network. The issues seem to begin at the junior high level.
  2. Ms. Jackson is meeting with Millcreek City regarding their Millcreek Promise program.
  3. She has also met with Skyline Network PTA President and the two former District Community Council members.
  4. She is also working on research and hopes to be able to be a good resource.
  5. She will work with Monisha Pasupathi to get some contacts at the University of Utah.
  6. Helping students become more involved in service was a suggestion to help them with their own mental health.
  7. Julie Jackson has a School Board Advisory group of Skyline students who also brought up assisting elementary students as a way to help with post-COVID education.
  8. Assisting students who are sitting by themselves at lunch was discussed.
  9. It was mentioned that bullying was discussed at another school and for about two weeks, there were a lot of reports about bullying. After that time, the reports seemed to be less and less.
  10. Service seems to empower the students.
  11. Involving the students regarding ideas for the school is important.
12. New Building
  - a. A couple of members of the New Building Sub-Committee met with the new Superintendent, Julie Jackson, Karen Winder, and Nicole McDermott from the Granite School District Board regarding the new building. It was a very good meeting.
  - b. The Committee felt that the progress is slow.
  - c. The new Superintendent is well versed in new buildings coming from Ogden School District.
  - d. The Field House should be done sometime next summer. That is very exciting.
  - e. The new stadium has been used and loved. The Skyline vs. Olympus football game will have students down on the track to accommodate all of the attendees.

Next Meeting – November 11, 2021, Skyline High Conference Room, 6:45 a.m.