

# Skyline High Community Council

## Minutes of 11/11/21 Meeting

### In Attendance:

Juan Arce-Larreta, Katie Dahle, Malia Groesbeck, Alisa Hamblin, Kylee Joyce, Jessica Kerr, Kim Lovato, Mitch Nerdin, Monisha Pasupathi, Karianne Prince, Brodie Reid, Alexander Smith  
Guests: Elyse Hunter and Tim Mundt

1. Meeting Minutes
  - a. Juan Arce-Larreta made a motion to approve the October 14, 2021, Skyline High Community Council Meeting minutes. Alexander Smith seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
2. December Meeting
  - a. It was decided that the December meeting would be cancelled. If there is a need for communication, it will be handled through e-mail.
3. Safe Technology
  - a. Ben Horsley will be at the January meeting to discuss Safe Technology.
4. District Community Council
  - a. Alisa Hamblin attended the District Community Council meeting.
  - b. They were trying to understand what parents consider a successful high school experience. The state is developing a program called Portrait of a Graduate, which defines what students should be able to do when they graduate from high school.
  - c. They asked three questions:
    - i. What would you expect your child to learn during high school?
    - ii. What would you consider success in high school?
    - iii. What do you think an employer would want from a high school graduate?
  - d. Parents answered the questions as a group.
  - e. Ms. Hamblin asked her husband, who is a small business owner, what he would like to see from a high school graduate. His answers were:
    - i. Be a problem solver
    - ii. Have technical competence/knowledge
    - iii. Communication skills
  - f. Ms. Hamblin sent these answers to Granite School District.
  - g. Ms. Hamblin was in a meeting with Karen Huntsman regarding the Huntsman Mental Health Institute. Mark Rappaport was the lecturer.
    - i. Ms. Hamblin asked if they had any mental health trainings for high school. They said that they are working on trainings.
    - ii. Ms. Hamblin was instructed to reach out to their developer in education and that Skyline may be able to be a pilot school for their mental health education program. Ms. Hamblin will contact them if Skyline would like her to get more information.
    - iii. It was mentioned that the best thing for students in a mental health crisis to do is use SafeUT right now which is already utilized at Skyline.
    - iv. SafeUT is an App. where students can anonymously report if a friend is in trouble, if they see something dangerous, if they see bullying, or anything like that, or if a student is having suicidal feelings. Skyline is the number one user of SafeUT in the entire State of Utah. We deal with 3-5 tips per day. At night, if a tip comes in, and it

is deemed immediate/urgent, the police are dispatched. If it is not immediate, it is sent to the school for follow up. If someone is suicidal, the police will do a well check. Skyline Administration follows up on all tips.

- v. Ms. Hamblin and a few other Council members said they would be interested in attending the next District Community Council meeting.
- vi. Dates for the next meetings are January 25<sup>th</sup>, March 29<sup>th</sup>, and May 31<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 p.m., Auditorium D, Granite Education Center, 2500 South State Street.

## 5. PTSA

- a. Juan Arce-Larreta reported that he met with the PTSA President, Elyse Hunter. He also met with the State Land Trust Administration. He said that it seems like Land Trust funds are the way to help the PTSA or to help supplement programs and improve our scores.
  - i. Purchasing food is not something that can be approved.
  - ii. Mental health is a big thing and safety in school is a big thing and can be what Community Councils can financially support.
  - iii. There is \$7000 that can be allocated from Land Trust funds to go toward safety and mental health issues.
  - iv. This will help with scores by bringing students together and creating a healthier learning environment.
  - v. Get kids a little more excited about being at school and then their grades will go up.
- b. Great Lunches
  - i. Anticipated 250 kids and 400 showed up to participate.
  - ii. Paying for speakers could be a way that the Community Council could support the program.
- c. Teacher mini-grants would also benefit the students.
- d. After-school programs could also benefit.
- e. Kids sitting by themselves at lunches could benefit.
- f. Service projects and problem solving is beneficial to the students and then finding ways to get items donated. Getting adults with some experience would benefit the students and the environment.
- g. These items could be implemented in the current Land Trust Plan and moving forward.
- h. Principal Nerdin has been great to help with Great Lunches. Where the PTSA needs help is to purchase books that speakers offer or to pay speakers.
- i. Teacher grants were offered. There were three who applied and all were granted. If the grant amount is larger, teachers may be more likely to participate.
- j. Student mini-grants could be tied to non-academic clubs. The school could provide money for the PTSA to cover things and then the PTSA could fund student mini-grants. There would have to be strict guidelines to spend money on funds for clubs.
- k. After-school tutoring online or Zoom options could be offered to be funded by student mini-grants.
- l. PTSA offered to help substitutes by paying for their background checks. They would be willing to offer incentives if that would be appropriate.
- m. Great Lunches – looking at an assembly geared toward mental health, anti-bullying, and acceptance. It is from a diary by one of the girls who was killed at Columbine. They tie similarities to the Diary of Anne Frank.
- n. Appreciation was expressed for the Skyline PTSA and all they do for Skyline.
- o. Principal Nerdin has offered to pay for other things if the PTSA pays for food.

- p. Appreciation was mentioned for the games that Principal Nerdin provided at the first of the school year.
  - q. The Community Council wants to support the PTSA where they need it. Whether it is for teachers or for students.
  - r. PTSA does so much with their time and we want to be able to support the PTSA programs.
  - s. PTSA could discuss and return with items that they need.
  - t. Immediate PTSA needs are being handled by Principal Nerdin.
  - u. Mini-Great Lunches could be scheduled for meditation and other positive mental health promoting activities.
  - v. Boosting morale for teachers is highly beneficial.
6. Land Trust Plan
- a. If we can articulate that these actions help one of our goals, we can allocate funds.
  - b. All after-school clubs have to be treated the same way. We have 35-50 clubs. Non-curricular clubs must have an advisor but the advisor cannot participate. We provide them a space and a supervisor to make sure it is safe. It is hard to distinguish between the curricular and non-curricular clubs because all of them bring a sense of community. Increases in positive mental health could be a side effect students participating in clubs. Most of the curricular clubs do not need money. Many are related to CTE and they are funded.
  - c. It was mentioned that it would be beneficial if there is there a space for clubs that are not tied to career tracks but to things like research and academics.
  - d. The Land Trust funds should be geared toward the established goals.
  - e. Mitch will go back and look at clubs and see where there are needs.
  - f. Granite School District received a twelve-million-dollar grant to purchase Chromebooks for students. This will free up funds for other areas.
  - g. We need to find solutions to our problems and fund the solutions.
  - h. Ten percent of the total budget can be carried over to be used for a bigger project down the road.
  - i. We can re-allocate \$35,000 that was going to go to a College Access Advisor. If we are able to hire one, we will pay for it but we have not been able to find one yet this year.
  - j. Mental health and tutoring were mentioned as areas where funds could be spent.
  - k. Restorative justice was mentioned as a way that student behavior could be addressed. It takes funding to run something like this. It takes more time to sit with students and go through things. Students in trouble could be trained to make restoration to the community using love and caring instead of consequences. Skyline is very much in support of this, we have a lot in place. Positive Behavior Instruction Support (PBIS) has been embraced through our RISE (Resilience, Integrity, Support, and Excellence) program.
  - l. Panorama is a program that will be used to assess the social-emotional skills of students so that interventions can be geared toward the needs of the students.
  - m. Investing in professional development for teachers and students, like the Great Lunches works.
  - n. Purchasing contracts for the Psychologist and Social Worker helps because they already have those skill sets.

- o. Teachers seem to be spread pretty thin right now. If students have relationships with teachers, it makes a huge impact as opposed to relationships with para-educators at the school.
  - p. Can we take things off of teacher's plates? It is difficult to do. The teachers have to grade, they have to give feedback to the students.
  - q. Principal Nerdin wants to have teachers go to a conference this summer regarding Professional Learning Communities (PLC's). PLC's are teachers working with colleagues to increase proficiency of teaching and learning. Teachers meet weekly on late start days. Teachers share what works best and address deficiencies.
  - r. A trainer is coming at the end of November to train teachers regarding a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS.) As we find needs, there may be areas where funds can be utilized.
  - s. It was asked how we can support teachers.
  - t. Principal Nerdin has been really good at creating an overall plan for the entire school.
  - u. Supporting Great Lunches ties into mental health which then ties into academic success.
  - v. Food must be separate from other things.
  - w. Principal Nerdin is paying for the food for the students for Great Lunches.
  - x. We need to do other things.
    - i. We are looking at assemblies
    - ii. RISE Ambassadors are planning monthly activities
    - iii. Weekly trainings regarding RISE have been planned
    - iv. Weekly e-mails are sent to parents
    - v. Instagram is being utilized
    - vi. RISE is discussed in weekly video announcements
    - vii. But more can be done. The District is going to come and do a survey regarding RISE and how effective it is with the students.
    - viii. Citizenship grading will be revamped for next year incorporating RISE along with attendance.
  - y. Freshman Success classes could be held for a second semester that are more like interventions. This class can be daunting if too much pressure is placed on students.
  - z. Skyline's graduation rate is very high. Failure rate is very low, however, there were 600 "F's" given out during first quarter. Credit Recovery is not enough.
  - aa. Students have to be able to fail and recover from failure. That message has to also come from the community.
  - bb. Hope Squad has created a room where students can go during lunch. Moving to one lunch allows us to do much more because we don't have to protect instruction in half of the building during lunch time.
  - cc. Professional development for teachers is a great way to utilize Land Trust funds.
  - dd. Mitch Nerdin will provide information regarding Land Trust expenditures, professional development, assemblies, night-time activities, and PTSA activities
7. New Building
- a. Parking is a giant problem. We are losing the southwest parking lot.
  - b. The District will give us a bus to shuttle kids from the church parking lot to the school, however, Skyline would have to provide a bus driver and we do not have a bus driver.
  - c. Concern was expressed that students are not parking at the church.

- d. Limiting parking has been suggested, however, forty-five percent of Skyline's student body comes from open enrollment where students live outside of Skyline's boundaries so students have to drive to school.
- e. It was mentioned that walking from the church to the school is good for students mentally, cognitively, and academically. Students should arrive a few minutes early in order to park at the church and get to school on time.
- f. The next building phases have just been bid. The bids started at 80 million and are now at 170 million because of supply chain issues.
- g. This summer the athletic space will be finished. The pool, gym, and cafeteria will be torn down and the auditorium will stay.
- h. Every year we get something new. The fields, tennis courts, and softball field will be done next year.
- i. They will also start on the academic building next year.
- j. In three years, 81% of the campus will be done. The performing arts will be done at the end.
- k. Noise mitigation was suggested as a good way to use money because noise can affect academics. It was mentioned that hotels have white noise machines to mask sounds.
- l. Throughout all of the building, students are in classrooms. Fine Arts are displaced but the current classrooms are better than the old buildings in some cases.
- m. There is an e-mail that goes out where you can get details about the building.
- n. The Board Meeting videos can be viewed on the Granite School District website to see current construction updates.

Next Meeting – The December meeting was cancelled. The next meeting was scheduled for January 20, 2022, 6:45 a.m. (This meeting was later changed to January 19, 2022, over Zoom.)