

Skyline High Community Council

Minutes of 2/17/22 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. Brodie Reid made a motion to approve the January 19, 2022, Skyline High Community Council Meeting minutes. Kylee Joyce seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Matt Durham Introduction
 - a. Mr. Durham, from the Holladay City Council, introduced himself.
 - b. The possibility of Holladay City putting up banners on signposts on the Holladay side of 3900 South was discussed.
3. June Meeting Date Change
 - a. The June Community Council meeting date needs to be changed. The meeting will be scheduled at a later date.
4. School Improvement Plan
 - a. Principal Nerdin stated that he wanted to present the needs of the school and have the Council decide the most pressing academic needs and then make decisions regarding funding.
 - b. Aspire+ test results for Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science for 2019 and 2021 were reviewed.
 - i. Science increased but Mathematics decreased. Math decreasing is not surprising because of the distance learning in 2020 and 2021.
 - ii. Massive kudos to the Language Arts Teachers for maintaining their scores.
 - iii. The Science test is measuring Science skills. Science teachers have been focusing on these skills.
 - c. Advanced Placement (AP) data was discussed. Last year had the lowest scores but it is not too far off. The tests that were given in 2020 were all done at home instead of in a controlled testing environment.
 - i. The total number of AP tests dropped from 1023 to 877. That was contributed to the pandemic and students dropping out of the more difficult classes during distance learning.
 - ii. Students' enrollment in AP classes changes due to peer pressure. Some take AP classes because their friends are taking them and some do not take AP classes because their friends are not taking them.
 - iii. In the last 10 years, the number of students transferring out of AP classes after the first two weeks has shifted. Skyline wants all students to take an AP class and all students to succeed in an AP class. The teachers will help everybody. Pre-requisites are not required, anyone can take the AP classes.
 - d. The Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program was briefly discussed.
 - e. International Baccalaureate (IB) data was reviewed.
 - i. We want more students to take IB classes, they do not need to go for the diploma.

- ii. Grades in IB are quite different, they have a different scale.
- f. ACT
 - i. Skyline's ACT average score is higher than the national norm.
- g. SAT
 - i. The SAT test is not utilized as much in Utah. Skyline students may take this test more because they apply for the National Merit Scholarship.
- h. Graduation Rate
 - i. The 2018 graduation rate was very high. The 2021 graduation rate was 91-92% like 2020. It is a phenomenal graduation rate but it is still not where Skyline would like it to be.
 - ii. There were ten students who did not walk for graduation last year. All of them completed graduation during the summer.
- i. Percent Failing
 - i. This was addressed last year.
 - ii. Throughout the quarter, the failing rate was higher than the final numbers. It is a credit to teachers that they were able to get the final numbers down. We are now back to below where we have been the last four years.
 - iii. We have created a safety net and now that students are in-person instead of distance learning, it is easier to work with them.
- j. Average Grade Point Average (GPA)
 - i. The average GPA is higher than the past two quarters than it has been the last four years.
- k. Panorama
 - i. Panorama is a program that will help identify the social emotional needs of students.
 - ii. This program is still in the process of being obtained by Granite School District.
- l. Compelling Data
 - i. There was a discussion regarding the most compelling data to use to create the Land Trust budget for next year.
 - ii. Distance Learning
 - 1. Learning Math through distance learning was very difficult for some students but it worked well for other students.
 - 2. The students adjusted to distance learning and have had to adjust to in-person instruction again.
 - 3. The Council wanted the teachers at Skyline to know that they have done a phenomenal job balancing all of the changes in the past two years. The students stepped up overall as well.
 - iii. Skyline has a high teacher retention rate. Teachers have been there for years or even decades. They come here and they want to stay here because the students are awesome and the parents are awesome and students are willing to work hard.
 - iv. Appreciation was expressed to the Skyline Administration and parents for their support.
 - v. Helping the students who are not reaching their goals was discussed.
 - vi. Areas of Focus
 - 1. Math Scores
 - 2. Science Scores
 - 3. Mental Health

- a. Digital Safety
- 4. Failure Rate / On Track - Graduation
- 5. Growing AP/IB Involvement
 - a. There are some IB expenses that Land Trust usually picks up. There is other funding available right now but IB will need to be funded by Land Trust again in the future.
 - b. Finding out how many students are at the top, middle, and lower levels of IB would be interesting. We want to raise everyone up.
 - c. About seventy percent of Skyline students take AP, IB, or CTE track classes.
 - d. Students and parents may not understand the IB program.
 - e. AP and IB students are in the same class in many instances. The Community Council wants to support both programs because they lift the entire community.
- 6. Provide Support for Core Students
- 7. Supporting the teachers/administration/staff was also mentioned.
- vii. Digital safety was mentioned as something that we should focus on for students. It was added under Mental Health.
- viii. Providing Chromebooks for students to use at home was a fantastic change over the past two years.
- ix. Over the next two years, the Land Trust money will be more valuable because the other funding that Skyline received will change.
- x. Principal Nerdin may come to the Community Council to adjust funding through Land Trust to allow for the use of other funding.
- m. Spending
 - i. 2021-2022
 - 1. Training for Science and Math teachers
 - a. Science skills that will be tested are universally beneficial.
 - i. There are two parts to the Science test
 - 1. Content knowledge
 - 2. Basic skills
 - b. Guided practice in Math was discussed.
 - 2. An Instructional Coach was hired to help teachers. She has a Science background and has been very helpful to the teachers.
 - 3. Psychologist – half-time
 - 4. Social Worker – funded by the district
 - 5. IB Coordinator
 - 6. IB required professional development
 - 7. College Access Advisor from the University of Utah – this will continue if the U of U can provide an advisor. If not, we may be able to hire one on our own.
 - 8. Credit Recovery
 - 9. Summer School
 - 10. Para-Professional Aides
 - 11. Chromebooks
 - 12. Extra Periods
 - 13. Equipment - Projectors, etc.

- a. The equipment needs are being met with Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds.
 - b. It was asked if new equipment would be part of the budget for the new building. Skyline doesn't have that budget. Audio enhancement systems will be installed but if we purchase some new, advanced equipment now, it can be used now and then moved to the new building.
 - c. Video equipment for teachers to record lectures was also discussed.
 - 14. Summer Boot Camp
 - 15. Teacher Grants
 - a. The PTSA asked for requests for teacher grants and received quick responses from the teachers.
 - 16. Mental Health for Teachers
 - a. Skyline has prepared multiple self-help and self-care teacher resources.
 - b. Monisha Pasupathi sent a video and information about an App. that can be downloaded.
 - c. The new athletic space can be promoted as a tool for staff self-care.
 - 17. If any Council members have other ideas, they will send them to Mitch Nerdin.
 - 18. There will be AVID training this summer for teachers.
 - 19. Some teachers are attending Professional Learning Community (PLC) training.
 - 20. RISE Ambassadors will continue and Network RISE Ambassadors will be implemented.
 - 21. Skyline's Parent Liaison has done a fantastic job.
 - 22. Rachel's Challenge assembly and parent night are being planned.
5. New Building
- a. August 1, 2022 is the date that the new athletic building will be completed.
 - b. An open house will be planned as soon as they allow us to occupy the building.
 - c. The pool goes down April 1, 2022. We will not have the pool after April 1st. The Aux Gym will be used again for testing.
 - i. Skyline swimmers will go to Olympus High.
 - ii. The Little Eagles will go to Taylorsville High.
 - iii. Asbestos abatement will be conducted in the pool building in April.
 - iv. The Aux Gym will be made available for AP and IB testing for two weeks and then the building will come down.
6. Digital Safety
- a. Alisa Hamblin and Juan Arce-Larreta met with the Skyline Student Body Officers (SBO's).
 - b. The SBO's said that they thought the most effective thing to do regarding digital safety is to talk about it in small groups.
 - c. More parent involvement was also suggested.
 - d. Freshman Success classes were suggested as a good place for students to go over the digital safety trainings and information.
 - e. The Community Council wants to support this program.
 - f. The Student Body President had a saying "Look up" which they thought was a great slogan.
 - g. There is a lot of positive in the digital world, the students need to know that it is not all negative.

- h. There is so much information on the Digital Safety tab on the Granite School District Website and Skyline App. However, there is no simple message. How do we get that message to parents? We want to get this message to everyone that we can.
 - i. Stopping suicides is something that is extremely important to the Community Council.
 - j. The earlier you have these conversations, the better. We need to figure out how to communicate, use computers and phones, and also be safe.
 - k. There was a challenge made to the SBO's to get off their phones by a certain time. The Council would like to know how the SBO's did with that challenge.
 - l. RISE Ambassadors may be another place where Digital Safety can be discussed.
7. District Community Council
- a. The January District Community Council meeting was not held but a lot of information was sent out.
 - b. The HB204 bill in the Utah Legislature was discussed.
 - c. Alisa Hamblin will send information to the Council.
 - d. The Hope Scholarship bill was also discussed.
 - e. There was a question from the District Community Council about whether the School Community Council was diverse enough to represent the Skyline Student Body.
 - i. It was decided that, yes, the Council is diverse enough to represent the Skyline Student Body.
 - f. We always have a robust group of candidates for Community Council and everyone has an equal opportunity to serve.
 - g. Tips for how to recruit parents for Community Council were requested.
 - i. Where the message comes from was discussed as an important part of recruitment.
8. PTSA
- a. The Community Council is excited to work closely with the PTSA.
 - b. Teacher grants have been offered and proposals have been submitted.
 - c. The Community Council and PTSA need to coordinate with Principal Nerdin to make sure that all teachers have the things that they need to teach Skyline students.

Next Meeting – March 10, 2022 – This meeting was later rescheduled to March 17, 2022.