

Skyline High Community Council

Minutes of 3/17/22 Meeting

In Attendance:

Katie Dahle, Alisa Hamblin, Kylee Joyce, Jessica Kerr, Kim Lovato, Mitch Nerdin, Monisha Pasupathi, Karianne Prince, Brodie Reid, Alexander Smith

Excused: Juan Arce-Larreta and Malia Groesbeck

Guests: Allison Armstrong, Gayna Breeze, Steve Hogan, Ben Horsley, Elyse Hunter, Julie Jackson, Tim Mundt, and Michelle Yamazaki

1. Meeting Minutes
 - a. Katie Dahle made a motion to approve the February 17, 2022, Skyline High Community Council Meeting minutes. Brodie Reid seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
2. School Musical
 - a. Katie Dahle and Alex Smith reviewed the play *Into the Woods* and Michelle Yamazaki stated that this would be the Disney version not the Broadway play version. It will be very traditional, very German, gingerbread, and colorful.
 - b. The Musical is usually the week before Thanksgiving break.
 - c. Appreciation was expressed to Ms. Yamazaki for bringing the play to the Council several months before the start of production.
 - d. The spring play will be sent to the Council soon. There will be a season announcement for the students.
 - e. Jessica Kerr made a motion to approve *Into the Woods* as the fall musical for 2022. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Land Trust
 - a. At the last Community Council meeting the following items were decided as the most important to Skyline:
 - i. Mental Health
 - ii. Digital Safety
 - iii. Mathematics Scores
 - iv. Science Scores
 - v. Growing AP/IB Involvement
 - vi. Help Failing Students
 - vii. Provide Support for Core Students
 - b. The Utah Accountability Model in high schools has five different parts:
 - i. Achievement - 25%
 - ii. Growth - 25%
 - iii. English Learner Progress - 6%
 - iv. Growth of the Lowest 25% - 11%
 - v. Postsecondary – 33%
 1. This includes graduation rate, ACT scores, and enrollment in more advanced classes – CTE pathways, AP, IB, and concurrent enrollment.
 - vi. These all give us an overall score.

- c. SMART Goal #1
 - i. Skyline High School will reduce the percentage of students not reaching proficiency by 10% on state assessments.
 - 1. English Language Arts will move from 70% to 73%
 - 2. Mathematics will move from 52% to 57%
 - 3. Science will move from 57% to 61%
- d. SMART Goal #2
 - i. Skyline will raise graduation rate from 91.8% to over 93%
- e. SMART Goal #3
 - i. Skyline High School will increase the percentage of students taking rigorous coursework from 89.3% to 91%
- f. This is the Community Council's plan. The Council agreed that the goals reflect the items that have been discussed by the Council.
- g. Action steps to accomplish these goals were discussed including all funding for Skyline High School.
 - i. Professional Development – Land Trust Funds
 - ii. 0.5 FTE Psychologist – ESSER Funds
 - iii. 0.5 FTE Social Worker – Granite School District Funds
 - iv. 1.0 FTE College Access Advisor (would like to add scholarships to this position and make the position full time) – Land Trust Funds
 - v. Paraeducators (Student Success Advocates/Parent Liaison) – ESSER Funds
 - 1. The Parent Liaison tracks data and students who are falling behind and communicates with parents and teachers.
 - 2. Paraeducators help core students.
 - vi. NHS & ACT Tutoring – Land Trust Funds
 - vii. 1.0 FTE Instructional Coach – TSSA Funds
 - 1. Marisa Cones has been working with new teachers who have benefitted from her expertise and willingness to support them.
 - 2. She has been a positive impact, she's very good. As a teacher, you can feel threatened when you are being observed. She doesn't create that kind of environment. She is helping with real instruction and delivery, it has been extremely helpful.
 - viii. Credit Recovery (Pathway to Credit) – ESSER Funds
 - 1. Credit Recovery is necessary. Pathway to Credit is also being utilized for those who are struggling to get kids to pass classes.
 - 2. These also help core students
 - ix. AVID – Land Trust Funds
 - 1. AVID focuses on core students.
 - x. Extra Periods (5) – ESSER and TSSA Funds
 - 1. Core students benefit from extra periods because it lowers class sizes
 - xi. 0.5 FTE IB Coordinator/Professional Development – Land Trust Funds
 - xii. Technology/Teacher Grants (PTSA)/Digital Safety
 - 1. When the PTSA asks, the teachers are willing to ask for funding.
 - 2. Up to \$1000 was offered and there were about 13 teachers who applied which is more than we have ever received. Many of the things that were requested could have been obtained by contacting the Principal but the PTSA is happy to help teachers with their needs.

- xiii. Professional Development includes Summer Boot Camp
 - 1. This allows teachers to review their curriculum and data and build for the next year. Teachers are able to come into work, work with their PLC, work through the standards, and build curriculum. It is probably the most valuable professional development ever done by the teachers. The training that is provided at the first of the school year does not allow time to implement changes. The Summer Boot Camp allows you to look at AP scores that come out in July, attend trainings, and make adjustments.
 - xiv. The roles of Para-educators was discussed.
 - xv. Pathway to Credit was discussed.
 - xvi. Parent Liaison, Elle Moulton, has been crucial to the Credit Recovery program.
 - 1. There are hundreds of kids and thousands of classes.
 - 2. Ms. Moulton strives to keep everyone on the same page, (administration, parents, Credit Recovery Team, students, and counselors). She makes sure that information is shared with all of the groups.
 - 3. She meets with the students to make sure that everything is in place.
 - 4. We are working to make an early-warning system to help struggling students earlier.
 - h. Appreciation was expressed for being able to see the entire budget not just the Land Trust funds.
 - i. Mitch Nerdin will send the submission for the Land Trust website to the Council Members. Mitch will write up what is approved by the Council and enter it into the website. All Community Council Members will receive an e-mail asking them to confirm their participation in the creation of the plan.
 - j. Monisha Pasupathi made a motion to approve the Land Trust plan as it was presented to the Council. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
 - k. Appreciation was expressed to Mitch Nerdin for his presentation of the overall school goals, the larger picture including all funding, and for submitting the Land Trust plan.
4. Population Analysis
- a. Steve Hogan, Ben Horsley, and Board Member Julie Jackson were all in attendance to discuss this information. Board Member Clark Nelson sent his apologies, he asked to be excused from the meeting.
 - b. Steve Hogan, Director of Planning and Boundaries, spent eleven years in the Skyline/Olympus areas. Gayna Breeze is Steve Hogan's Administrative Assistant.
 - c. This is a 30,000 foot view.
 - d. In the 1980's and 1990's, Granite School District was a larger district, it had 65,000 to 80,000 students. Year-round schools were implemented to accommodate the number of students. Now, we are closer to 60,000 students. We are now an older, more mature district.
 - e. A couple of years ago, with Board permission, Steve Hogan contacted Davis Demographics, they are a school district demographics company that gives an independent, third-party view of what the District looks like regarding enrollment. They can confirm or challenge the data that the District has. They confirmed what the District was seeing, that we are a smaller district. In 24-25 years, we will level out to the 54,000-57,000 range. We are a growing state, however, parts of our District are growing but not enough to offset the aging part of the district.

- f. We know where we are at, it was presented to the Board some time ago. Nothing was done during COVID but now the District would like to study the issue.
- g. The general consensus was that the District is a minimum of 10 elementary schools too heavy depending on the enrollment and demographics that we have. The District representatives stated that they were not here to say they are closing 10 schools.
- h. The Davis Demographics report was presented to the Board in January 2021, about a year ago. If you go the Granite School District website and type in Davis Demographics, you can access the report.
- i. When the reconfigurations of the Skyline, Cottonwood, and Olympus networks took place, it was stated that the impact of the reconfigurations would be analyzed and studied regarding the boundaries as a whole.
- j. The Davis Demographics report is a very, very big picture.
- k. Steve Hogan will send the presentation to the Council.
- l. The population analysis study was presented to the Board in February. This is a calendar year process, nothing has been decided.
 - i. We are in the February-June portion of the process.
 - ii. The District is in the process of information gathering, feedback, brainstorming information and suggestions.
 - iii. The District has visited over 20 Community Councils so far.
 - iv. They will also be holding open houses.
 - v. The District wants to make sure to get community feedback as part of this process. They want to cast a wide net and think very broadly about things right now instead of thinking too narrowly.
 - vi. They hope to have five options by September.
 - vii. The Board may make changes or they may not make changes.
 - viii. The earliest anything would be done is the fall of 2023. Larger impacts could be put out a year or two.
 - ix. A website will be up in the next few weeks with all of this information
- m. It was asked what the District would like to get from the Community Council.
 - i. They want the Community Council to have this information.
 - ii. They would like the Community Council to be ambassadors to the community and get feedback.
- n. Granite School District has implemented a community engagement process so that before any heavy items are discussed, the District notifies key stakeholders, such as Community Councils and the community through open houses and mailers so that the communities can respond to the District with several different options and ideas.
 - i. It was stated that there are things that the District does not understand or may not be aware of and it would be foolish not to consider a variety of things that the communities may be aware of.
- o. The first study was the VanWinkle/700 East Corridor Study. They don't want to be too narrow in their study. A discussion of this study was held.
- p. Small elementary school concerns were discussed.
- q. There was also study about the Skyline, Olympus, and Cottonwood networks.
 - i. The east side of the District is older, a little more mature. This is not just about Cottonwood, Olympus, or Skyline. If there is a change to one of these schools, it affects all of the schools.

- ii. Cottonwood is the smallest high school at about 1600 students. Skyline has about 2200 and Olympus has about 2200.
- r. We are an open enrollment state. Students can choose to go to any school they want to as long as there is room at that school. They might have to provide their own transportation but they can choose the school they want to attend as long as the school has room.
- s. The full impact of boundary changes takes about 7-9 years because when students start at one school, they want to finish at that school. Students are very passionate about where they go to school.
- t. There have been no decisions made at this point. The District is open to potential solutions. Considerations will not be made until this summer after more meetings and open houses are held and information gathered. Then things will be analyzed and recommendations will be made. The communities are giving the District amazing ideas. Some ideas may be threatening to schools because people outside of the school do not know the issues their suggestions may have on other networks. The District will gather the information, research what the communities need to know about each issue, and present options at the open houses.
- u. There have been recommendations from some communities including the following:
 - i. Moving elementaries to different networks
 - ii. Draw more east-west boundaries instead of north-south boundaries
 - iii. Don't change boundaries, consider programs and schools
 - iv. Make schools more appealing
 - v. Moving the IB program from Skyline to Cottonwood – not everyone understands the intricacies of this suggestion
- v. Cottonwood has the AMES program as well, the numbers are not counted with the 1600 enrollment count at Cottonwood High, AMES is its own school.
- w. The District wants to figure out how to maintain robust networks.
- x. There will be three open houses this month:
 - 1. April 11, 2022, Cottonwood High School
 - 2. April 13, 2022, Granite Park Junior High
 - 3. April 18, 2022, Olympus High School
- y. E-mail for suggestions, ideas, and concerns: boundaries@graniteschools.org.
- z. Principal Mitch Nerdin suggested that the District look at the number of students that are assigned to each school. Skyline only has about 1200 students that live in the Skyline boundaries, there are many more students who are attracted to Skyline.
- aa. It was mentioned that feedback from the Olympus network included a statement that out-of-boundary students are taking spots on all of the sports teams. This is not the case at Skyline.
- bb. Skyline, Olympus, and Cottonwood Networks
 - i. Olympus has 1900 in-boundary students
 - ii. Cottonwood has about 1600 in-boundary students
 - iii. Ideas to attract students to Cottonwood were requested. The Board is excited to learn from the Skyline community because Skyline is so good at attracting students.
 - iv. Cottonwood has different demographics than Skyline and that will always be the case. We need to keep that in mind.
- cc. It would be helpful to understand what other considerations besides geography and boundary size go into changing boundaries.

- dd. A ten-year trend may not be reliable. The District wants to look at 50-years. The District is studying this.
 - ee. There has been lots of discussion regarding the equity issue. It was mentioned that according to studies, it would be beneficial to Skyline and Olympus to have more diversity in the schools. It allows for students to have many different areas where they can fit in at school.
 - ff. Re-districting using the north-south instead of the east-west boundaries was mentioned.
 - gg. Open enrollment makes it difficult to know how the boundary changes would affect the schools.
 - i. When parents move into the area, they go to websites, they visit neighborhoods, and they talk to neighbors in areas where they want to live. They want to go to the best school and that is Skyline. That ranking has a lot to do with the IB Program.
 - ii. Students' friends also have a lot to do with the school that they want to attend.
 - hh. The end goal is to maintain robust networks. It may not be boundary changes, it will likely need to involve more than boundary changes.
 - ii. The message to the community that the District would like relayed is the information that was discussed at this meeting. There are some wild rumors out there. We need the Community Council to be ambassadors and let the community know that the District wants to gather information and no decisions have been made. The role is two-way and really valuable.
 - jj. Julie Jackson, Board Member, stated that she is being guided by the principle of "Do not solve a problem by creating another one." Ideas for one school may bring problems to other schools. The Community Council should send any ideas or solutions to Granite School District.
 - kk. This is just the start of the study. There will be more meetings in the fall. Watch for mailers and announcements of other meetings.
 - ll. Appreciation was expressed for the presentation by the District and Board Member.
 - mm. The Davis Demographics study is quite informative and shows the scope of the problem facing the District, across the entire District.
5. District Community Council and PTSA information will be sent to the Council by Alisa Hamblin and Juan Arce-Larreta.

Next Meeting – April 14, 2022