

Skyline High Community Council

Minutes of 4/14/22 Meeting

In Attendance:

Juan Arce-Larreta, Katie Dahle, Malia Groesbeck, Alisa Hamblin, Kylee Joyce, Jessica Kerr, Kim Lovato, Mitch Nerdin, Karianne Prince, Brodie Reid

Excused: Monisha Pasupathi and Alexander Smith

Guest: Tim Mundt

1. Proposed Gravel Pit
 - a. There was a discussion regarding the proposed gravel pit in Parley's Canyon.
2. Meeting Minutes
 - a. It was noted that there was an error in the draft minutes where "IB" needed to be changed to "Skyline." Katie Dahle made a motion to approve the amended March 17, 2022, Skyline High Community Council Meeting minutes. Brodie Reid seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Land Trust
 - a. Granite School District sent some changes to the Land Trust Plan. The changes were sent to the Council Members.
 - i. We can't create a pocket of money where teachers apply for grants. Every time teachers want something the plan will have to be amended.
 - ii. It just takes time to amend the plan, but it should not impede teachers getting the things that they need. Items will be brought to the Community Council to approve first and then the plan will be amended.
 - b. There were too many components of the overall plan, and we were informed that only Land Trust funds should be included in the plan. Those changes were made.
 - c. Current Land Trust Plan
 - i. The College Access Advisor from the University of Utah position had \$35,000 set aside to pay their salary, but we have not been able to hire someone. Mitch Nerdin is proposing to create a position at the school instead of waiting for the U of U to supply one. He would like to add scholarships resource as a responsibility for this position. Skyline students have the capacity to benefit from many more scholarships. Families could rely on this person to get information about scholarships. This is going through Granite School District to get approval. Other schools have a person who helps students get scholarships. We already have a lot of students going to college. We want to help them get scholarships.
 - ii. If it is ongoing, it cannot be from Land Trust funds because the funding could go away if the Community Council does not want to fund it. It will need to be out of a pot of money that is under the school's control. TSSA funds may be used if the position is approved.
 - iii. The Community Council voiced their approval of this.
 - d. Graduation Cords
 - i. We have lots of awards that students apply for and are selected. Department Academic Letters will be available and graduation cords will be presented to those students who qualify for each award.

- ii. Once the criteria for each award is established by each department, it will become an incentive for students to focus on an academic subject.
 - 1. Elective subject awards may involve taking more classes
 - 2. Core subject Academic Letters will be more about the level of the class or what grades the students got or accomplishments like being published. Some departments may have an open application where students can submit proposals and get them approved.
 - 3. Starting a club, participating in department competitions, and grade point average in the department classes could also be considered.
 - 4. The information is already out there and seniors are talking about getting the cords. There is excitement about it.
 - 5. The process has to be on the student. They need to apply for the Academic Letters and have the teachers approve them.
 - 6. We want to establish it this year and build excitement for the future.
 - 7. Information will be sent out to let seniors and parents know about the cords.
- iii. It was mentioned that there are big goals for next year. Implementation of action steps was discussed.
 - 1. Improving Graduation Rate
 - a. Credit Recovery and implementing Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) are action steps for this goal.
 - b. AVID is a program that will support students and give them access to more rigorous coursework.
 - c. We are hiring a teacher to provide Freshman Success classes throughout the year, not just first semester.
 - d. AVID will give more structure to the Freshman Success classes. It will help to identify students who need additional support, also, any student who fails a class will have support in their Freshman Success class. If we can keep students on track, they will stay on track. We will try to implement this throughout all Freshman Success classes.
 - e. There are Para-Educators who track students. The Parent Liaison is tracking students more than has ever been done at Skyline. She meets with the students and communicates with the parents. We need to do more.
 - f. If students are failing, Principal Nerdin would rather have the students have a pathway to credit so they can pass the class instead of having to do credit recovery if possible. It's a culture shift for teachers, instead of failing, help students to pass their class.
 - g. Credit Recovery is so much more than just recovering credit. It would be nice to change the name to something like Student Success. It's not "I have a semester left and I have a mountain of work to do." It has become a constant support to help students stay on track. It is getting more efficient and better. Now that there are Credit Recovery classes, we can help the students earlier and get them on track.
 - h. It was asked if AVID could be used in the Study Skills classes as well.
 - i. AVID was started by a teacher in California who was assigned a group of underrepresented students. The goal is to give underrepresented students support and get them to a four-year college or university.

- j. AVID will be used initially to take students and help them be successful in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program. AVID strategies trickle down to every teacher and every student.
 - k. AVID has a 3-day summer institute that some Skyline teachers will be attending this summer.
 - l. Teachers who have attended this training have realized that if they scaffold the material, students can access the higher rigor and the teacher doesn't need to lower their standards.
 - m. Specific IB classes are only juniors and seniors. There are about 100 students that are on an IB track. We don't want to be a school that has an IB program, we want to be an IB school.
 - n. Providing students access to the most rigorous courses is important, at Skyline, it is IB.
 - o. It is thought that there are not students who are pursuing rigorous courses on their own and not being pushed to do so by parents. This is why we want to have the support here so students can choose a rigorous path and will believe they can do it.
 - p. AP classes formerly required pre-requisites and teachers had to sign the students into the class. The culture shifted to have as many students as possible take the AP classes. The teachers support all of the students throughout the class and students are not required to take the AP test. The philosophy is to get students ready for college. The number of students taking AP classes have skyrocketed.
- iv. New Building –
1. Appreciation was expressed to the community for all their work on the new building. It is going to be great for the community. It was great how the community stepped up and showed support for the teachers and the school.
 2. A new parking process has been implemented with faculty parking. It keeps students from violating the rules. Teachers appreciate that they can find parking and get into the lot easily now.
 3. The circular movement of the drop-off is much better than the 4-way stop that used to be there. The Principal will keep tweaking parking to make it better.
 4. The pool has water in it, it must sit for about a month to ensure that it does not have any issues. Once that is done, they will finish the tile around the pool. Getting more students in the pool is something that the Principal is interested in doing. He is looking at the possibility of P.E. classes using the pool.
 5. The Athletic building will be turned over to the school on August 1, 2022.
 6. The day school is out at the end of the school year. The Main Gym and Auxiliary Gym will be abated and then knocked down. They have to save the Auditorium, and have been working so that the Auditorium and classrooms can stand alone.
 7. A group of coaches are getting a tour of the new building.
 8. The weight room is going to be in a classroom or the glass hallway for the summer. The rest of the supplies from the buildings that are being torn down will be housed on the stage for the summer.
 9. Getting the Athletic building is pretty exciting. All P.E. classes will be in that space. The one switch is that the batting nets will be moved from the track. They

are looking at ideas, possibly putting them in the Wrestling Room. The new Wrestling mats are much better than the old mats.

10. Fields

- a. Much of the parking issues are due to wanting to get the facility done faster.
- b. The construction staging was moved to the faculty parking and a faculty parking lot was added to the east side of the school.
- c. We were able to accelerate the fields two years.
- d. The turf field is being put in right now.
- e. There will be a turf field, grass field, and Softball field, these are all being worked on now.
- f. The turf field is anticipated to be done by the first of next school year.
- g. Tennis is ready but the company that is scheduled to do the installation cannot start until August. We won't have it in the fall, but it will be done in November.
- h. There are some ADA ramps next to the new fields. That one section of the campus will have radiant heating to melt the snow and ice.

11. Karianne Prince can send the link to the pictures she received from Granite School District. There's a

4. District Community Council

- a. There was a survey that Community Councils completed, and the last meeting was going over those surveys. Alisa Hamblin will send out the minutes to the Community Council and keep the Council informed of any information from the district.

5. PTSA

- a. The concept that there is a better relationship between the Community Council and PTSA has been established.
- b. The PTSA has new officers elected for next year.
- c. Juan Arce-Larreta will talk to the new PTSA President and let them know that the Council wants to support the PTSA and leverage resources to benefit the students, faculty, staff, and administration.

6. Hall of Fame

- a. Hall of Fame nominations will be requested and presented at the next meeting.
- b. Hall of Fame inductees are usually former Skyline students or staff who have made significant contributions to their communities.
- c. The Hall of Fame selection will be made at the June meeting.

7. Community Council Elections

- a. Elections will be held a little earlier this year.

Next Meeting – June 2022 – Date TBD