

Skyline High Community Council

Minutes of 5/12/22 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
Guest: Tim Mundt

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Katie Dahle made a motion to approve the April 14, 2022, Skyline High Community Council Meeting minutes. Kylee Joyce seconded the motion. Karianne Prince called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Land Trust

a. Testing

- i. All goals are heavily defined by how well students do on tests.
- ii. A lot of families opt out of testing. There was a discussion regarding whether students opting out of testing is hurting Skyline's scores.
- iii. Principal Nerdin asked how they could let families know that tests are important.
- iv. Some students opt out because they didn't get scores from last year.
- v. It was asked who opts out. It seems that the students who are opting out are more the super high achievers. Historically, higher achieving students opt out.
- vi. The school needs data to tell us what we are doing.
- vii. Hundreds of students opt out.
- viii. All opt outs happened the last couple of days before the test.
- ix. Students opt out because their friends are opting out.
- x. Parents may not understand what the ASPIRE test is, it is a pre-ACT test.
- xi. Some colleges don't require ACT scores.
- xii. Opting out of testing was a response to Common Core. The Legislature made the decision. The issue for a large contingent is what is on the tests.
- xiii. The school needs meaningful scores. Data tells us how well we are doing.
- xiv. It was asked if students or parents are pushing this.
- xv. It was suggested that the school could put out more positive publicity about the test.
- xvi. Some students blew through the test, they didn't care about it. They finished in just a few minutes and then were disruptive to others who were seriously taking the test.
- xvii. Principal Nerdin said that he could send messages home about how important testing is to the school. All data comes from testing. If we give the Community Council information to parents, it explains how the tests tie into Land Trust funds.
- xviii. We could make it fun, have breakfast before or ice cream after the test.
- xix. We could build up positive momentum. Teachers could give information at parent/teacher conferences. We want to help students and give them extra support.
- xx. Some students see opting out as a break from school.
- xxi. The school has leeway how to give the ASPIRE tests. Testing over two days eliminates one day of instruction.
- xxii. Teachers could prepare students by explaining the importance of the test.
- xxiii. This data is important, it steers curriculum.

- xxiv. The Community Council could go to the Legislature and request that they look into the opting out issue.
- xxv. The school could look at who took the tests. Core teachers have the biggest impact.
- xxvi. The school could use an “all of the above” approach. Some ideas included:
 - 1. Ice cream after the test
 - 2. Students are excused from the next test if they are proficient on the first test
 - 3. Educate the community at parent/teacher conferences
 - 4. Explain that testing guides instruction and that testing helps students get better
 - 5. Educate parents and teachers
 - 6. Social – make it fun
 - 7. Have a meal at the test break
 - 8. Treats
- b. Funds
 - i. Principal Nerdin is looking at the Land Trust expenditures to ensure all funds are spent.
 - ii. Chromebooks
 - 1. The oldest Chromebooks are being replaced with money from a grant to Granite School District.
 - 2. Students having Chromebooks makes a difference. It would be hard to go back to them not having Chromebooks. Teachers do a lot on Canvas now, it has been a good change, it is the new normal.
 - 3. Access to websites is more secure and restricted on and off campus through the Chromebooks.
- c. Graduation Rate
 - i. The graduation rate is based on all students who have been at Skyline.
 - ii. Skyline has less than 10 students that need to pass fourth quarter.
- d. College and Career Counselor
 - i. Kylee Joyce said that the Counseling Center was contacted by someone who will be assigned to Skyline next year.
- e. Staffing
 - i. There are three people retiring, Denice Long, Joe Pereira, and Mark Jasumback.
 - ii. We have hired replacements for the following departments:
 - 1. Math, Science, Business, Counseling, English, and P.E.
 - iii. The Principal’s Secretary position is also posted.
 - iv. There will be a full time Social Worker at Skyline next year. The Psychologist will also be full time.
 - v. New Science teachers will need to be trained in the Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs.
 - vi. It was asked if we had a Science mentor. Skyline’s Instructional Coach, Marisa Cones, has been a mentor to the two new Science teachers.
- f. Summer Boot Camp
 - i. Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds will be used to incentivize teachers to work during the summer. It has been left open-ended so teachers can work all summer. They will demonstrate completion with deliverables. The Instructional Coach is helping with this. Unfortunately, new hires show up five days before they start teaching.

- ii. The summer program for teachers is very beneficial. Summers are spent building curriculum. Teachers really don't get summers off.
 - iii. Brodie Reid mentioned that he keeps a daily journal of what he is doing and how it worked. He mentioned that teachers can never become complacent. The Summer Boot Camp week is Mr. Reid's favorite week, he is excited that it has been expanded.
 - iv. There are new technology standards every year. Teachers must find the time to adjust curriculum.
3. Hall of Fame
- a. The Hall of Fame nominees were distributed to the Community Council members. They will vote on the inductee at the June meeting.
 - b. The Hall of Fame recognizes Skyline teachers, students, and staff who exemplify what it means to be a Skyline Eagle. Inductees typically make where they live a better place to be. The Community Council honors people who have demonstrated RISE (Resilience, Integrity, Support, and Excellence) values.
 - c. Nominations are received from community members. Resumes and additional information about the nominees are submitted to the Community Council.
4. 2022-2023 School Year
- a. Principal Nerdin thinks it's really hard for fourteen-year-old students to come to big, scary high school. He wants there to be part of the school day to focus on transition to 9th grade.
 - b. Principal Nerdin referenced an article where 1800 students at 100+ schools were surveyed and school connectedness was more impactful than socio-economics.
 - c. First Days of School
 - i. The Principal is making an effort to make the first day of school only for 9th grade.
 - ii. It would be an 8-period day so students would go to all classes.
 - iii. The transition is not about rules and grades, it will give them skills for how to navigate high school.
 - iv. Students would:
 - 1. Go to the new gym
 - 2. Sign up for clubs
 - 3. Attend an assembly
 - 4. Receive a T-shirt
 - 5. Meet teachers
 - 6. Have a hot dog at lunch
 - 7. Get a wristband
 - 8. Meet new kids
 - 9. Leadership groups, clubs, and teams, could be there and the band could be playing
 - 10. All teachers will get focused on getting students to class, no tardies
 - v. It was mentioned that in Canyons School District, 9th grade students come a day early and then don't have to come on the last day of school.
 - vi. The Principal will push for it at Granite School District.
 - vii. Schedule
 - 1. School starts on Thursday and would be an 8-period day for 9th grade only
 - 2. Friday would also be an 8-period day for all students
 - viii. Spotlight on Skyline

1. Spotlight on Skyline (in introduction to Skyline High for incoming 9th grade students) could not be held this year because Skyline was under Test to Stay protocol that week.
5. New Building
 - a. The last day of the school year, the Pool Building will start to come down.
 - b. The Main Gym will be open through the summer.
 - c. Athletic Building
 - i. The new Athletic Building will be done no later than August 1st.
 - ii. An open house will be planned before school starts. Families and the community will be able to go on tours of the building.
 - iii. There will be a ribbon cutting for the new building during a Skyline Volleyball game.
 - d. Fields
 - i. The fields are ahead of schedule.
 - ii. The turf field will be ready for the 2022-2023 school year.
 - iii. The grass field and the Softball field will be in before the snow and will be ready for spring.
 - e. Tennis Courts
 - i. The contractor will be completing the tennis courts August – October 2022.
 - f. Sports
 - i. Every sport will be back on campus except Girls Tennis for the 2022-2023 school year.
 - g. Walkways
 - i. Walkways will be open from the church parking and by the Softball field. It is hoped that students will utilize the church parking more because they will be able to get to the campus easier.
 6. PTSA
 - a. The PTSA has new officers in place.
 7. Community Council Vacancies
 - a. There are four open seats on the Community Council.
 - b. The deadline for declarations of candidacy is August 22, 2022.

Next Meeting – June 9, 2022 – Zoom Only