

Taylorsville High Community Council

Minutes of September 17, 2014 Meeting

In Attendance:

Dr. Garrett Muse
Emily Liddell
Natalie Paxton
Taunja Baxter
Michelle Christensen
Betsy Valora
Mindy Barrios
Steve Garlitz
Eric Thimpson
Lafo Tauanu'u
Levi Negley

Excused:

Neil Andersen
Sue Brunstetter
Andrew McLeran

Minutes:

- 1. Welcome by Dr. Garrett Muse.** (Taunja was running late)
- 2. Approve minutes from May 21, 2014 meeting.** Motion made by Dr. Muse, second by Taunja Baxter.
- 3. School Business (Dr. Muse)**
 - **Elections:** No new names for council members. Asked members to submit some names of possible candidates. Three names were submitted for Lafo to contact. Andrea Bingham was suggested by Stephen Garlitz, Corrine Kendall by Betsy Valora and Michelle Maumau by Lafo Tauanu'u. Lafo will contact these possible candidates and report to Dr. Muse, Kari Parry and the Council Chair.

- The Council has elected to keep Taunja Baxter as the Council Chair. This nomination was put forward by Stephen Garlitz, second by Michelle Christensen. The new Vice-Chair will be Natalie Paxton. The council voted unanimously in the affirmative. Taunja will contact Sue Brunstetter our former Vice-Chair to thank her for her service and to confirm that she still wants to serve as a member of the community council.
- We covered that Mid-terms are on Friday September 19, 2014. There were no questions or comments from the council.
- **Parent/Teacher Conference** will be on Wednesday September 24th and Thursday September 25th. The first night will be in the Cafeteria and in D-Hall. Second night will be in the teacher's individual class rooms. Special Ed will be in their classrooms on both nights. No appointments necessary. Dr. Muse will do an all call to parents either on Friday or Sunday night.
- **SAGE testing.**
 - There is some misinformation out there about the testing that is going on right now. The testing taking place right now is not SAGE. It is Benchmark testing that is required by Granite School District and parents cannot opt out of this testing. Parents should understand that this is Benchmark testing and the results will not be shared with SAGE, but that the results may affect their students grades.
 - SAGE testing scores will come out before the end of the school year. This test is the state test and is separate from the Benchmark tests given. Parents should understand that anytime a new test is administered, that scores will drop. If they are questioning the results and why they are so low, this would be the reason why.
- **PLC's (Professional Learning Community)**
 - Monday mornings are set aside for PLC's.
 - When teachers meet in their PLC's, they are able to better gauge the material or content they are using/presenting to their classes. Is it

working/effective? If not, what will work and they are able to collaborate with their peers in their department. This is also a time when they can gauge what percentage of students understand the content/material being taught.

-The Math department has been doing some exciting PLC work and are doing more.

-The entire Biology department are using their PLC time to present what they are using in their classes.

-PLC's is a part of this schools culture.

-Emily Liddell said that, "Professional Learning Community, it's not what we do, but who we are".

4. Accreditation (Levi Negley)

-PLC's and accreditation really tie in together.

-They are using a template that is similar to each other.

-The goal is to ultimately have inter-department PLC's where they cross-collaborate with other departments.

-Accreditation will be taking place on January 27th and 28th of 2015.

-Council members (parents) may be called on to participate in a parent focus group. They will also have a student focus group.

-The goal with accreditation is to give an honest assessment of where we are at as a school.

-Accreditation is based on a Global standard.

5. Counselor Minute (Eric Timpson)

-The counselors are meeting with the sophomores in their English classes. This is so that the sophomores will know who their counselors are.

-Starting in to the CCR's (Career and College Readiness) with the senior class and their parents. Parents can go on-line to set up their appointments.

-PSAT testing for the Junior class coming up. This test is recommended for all juniors. This test is also the qualifier for the National Merit Scholarship. Students can pay for this test in the bookstore and the costs is \$14.00. Testing is on November 13, 2014.

-Upcoming testing that will take place for students:

PLAN for Sophomores

ASVAB for Juniors

College Readiness for Seniors.

6. Other

-Total number of students registered to Taylorsville High is 1,720.

-We will be adding teacher/class(es) due to numbers growing.

-Emily Liddell is talking with teachers (Department Chairs) about how we may be adding classes. She is working with Nina Lemon (Registrar) and counselors to look at where they can make changes that will cause the least amount of shifting. Because of the shifting we understand that there will be some angry parents/students.

-Stephen Garlitz asked if we have heard anything about the boundaries being redrawn since Steve Hogan had to present to the Board of Education on September 2, 2014. Dr. Garrett Muse has not heard anything.

Meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm. Next meeting scheduled for October 22, 2014 @ 3:30 in room G-105.