

Valley Jr High
Community Council Agenda
Oct 15, 2019

Present: Rich Nielsen, Holly Hennessey, Aleida Velazquez, Michael Sanders, Jacob Ballentine, Kelly Clay, Demarie Hoover

Excused: Sherree Alison, Kim Turkansci

Motion to approve the minutes from last month, it passed.

There was a question about the vice chair, it was motioned that Jacob Ballentine should do it, the motion passed.

We have a lot of diversity in our school, how do we reach out to more of our diverse parents.

-Flyers in English and Spanish? How do we get them to the parents? How do we explain what is Community Counsel and what does it do? How do we get input from the different communities? Word of mouth. Should we send representatives to the elementary school's community counsels.

STEM Initiatives Do we want to go through the process of becoming a true STEM school or do we want to just do the name? What changes in the school if it becomes STEM? "The Principal" will look into it. Will parents have a better opinion if we are a STEM school?

Land Trust

We need to look at the 18-19 report, please take note of the amendments made to the report. For this year's report, we did make the changes we talked about in our last meeting in terms of teachers. Our chromebooks are becoming obsolete faster than we planned. If we want to continue one to one chromebooks, then we will need to plan for this. If we cover about half of the chromebooks this year it will leave a little for PD. What happens

to the old chromebooks? They are condemned and sold by the district. What type of PD will help the teachers; AVID and PLC's are what the school would like to focus on.

Amendment #1 was passed around and discussed. The amendment passed with 8 in favor and 2 absent.

The amendment is as follows:

"Because the school enrollment increased significantly, funds originally intended for use with FTE and salaries for aides can be redistributed to further address needs at VJH related to math, science and Language Arts proficiency goals.

Valley Junior High is a 1:1 device school using ChromeBooks. There presently is no perceivable plan in place for rotation of purchases of aging devices. Prior to the beginning of 2020 school year the school will need to replace approximately 520 ChromeBooks as they will no longer be supported by Google.

It is proposed that we replace student ChromeBooks, and carts as needed, this year using TrustLand funds with 2019-20 allocation.

It is further proposed that remaining funds be used for professional development opportunities for staff members centered on PLCs and AVID."

Discussion on 6th grade moving up to JH. Can we house that many students? Do the elementary teachers want it? (we think yes) What do our teachers think? (we think no) Do we let them be kids long? Overwhelming consensus was that Valley Junior High Community Council is not in favor of relocating 6th grade to Junior High.

Athletics how do we build our program? Coach turn over, school culture and other factors we can work on. Can we buy nice uniforms for our kids? We have started a rotation to buy uniforms.

Integrated HN math, seems to be going slow and not at the advanced pace parents are used to. Parents are worried if we take away "honors" ie integrated honors then parents will take their kids elsewhere.

Next meeting is Jan 21st.