

West Valley Elementary Community Council

Held: Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 8:00am

Presiding Chair: Phillip Twede

Conducting: Shauna Jensen

Council Members Present:

Natalie Cooke - Parent
Kerri Bauer - Parent
Phillip Twede - Parent
Mandee Cossa - Teacher
Shauna Jensen - Principal
Mindy Pratt - Parent/School staff

Non-member attendees:

MaryLynn Mendez - Parent
Alex Mendez - Student attending for his Citizenship in the Community Boy Scout Merit Badge.

Agenda:

- Determine what is best for students regarding high ratios in 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades.

Action Items:

- Most grades where they should be for their ratios except 2nd grade. However, new student enrollment has increased our 3rd and 4th grade class sizes. Overall, our school ratio is not enough to hire another teacher.
 - It has been suggested that we use Trustlands funding originally set aside for subs to hire an instructional para-professional to help with 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade language arts. Due to creative class scheduling, the school will not need as much funding for subs as originally planned.
 - Currently \$14,000 was set aside for subs. \$8-\$9,000 would be needed for the instructional para-professional if the council votes in favor of hiring.
 - Full-time para-professional would be 29 hours a week providing approximately 6 hours per day except Fridays for language arts help.
 - Due to scheduling conflicts of when might be best to have the para-professional visit each class, Mindy Pratt suggested that we hire two part-time para professionals.
 - The final alternative would be to hire a ½ time teacher for 2nd grade only since they have the highest class size ratio. The committee did not feel leaving out 3rd and 4th grade was in the best interest for our students.
- Kerri Bauer motioned to amend a portion of Trustlands funding designated for subs to hire two part-time para-professionals in order to provide additional small group support for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade language arts.
 - Shauna Jensen 2nd the motion.
 - All in favor: Phillip Tweede, Natalie Cooke, and Mandee Cossa.
 - Mindy Pratt elected not to vote due to parent-school staff ratio.

Agenda for meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at 8:00am

- Vote on 2015-2016 final SSAP
- Approve to change council meetings from Thursday morning to Tuesday morning each month
- Approve to amend Trustlands funding for subs to be used for instructional para-professionals.
- Discuss council member positions
- What is the school doing to improve reading problem?