



*Mission: YESS Will provide a safe, respectful and nurturing environment where youth, in the custody of the state of Utah, will develop academic, technological and social skills in preparation for college and career/vocational readiness for an ever-changing 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce.*

**YESS Program  
LAC/Community Council  
January 5, 2022**

**Attendees**

Jason Rosvall	Benji Carrier	Darcie Peterson
Brenda Monson	Amanda Charlesworth	
Ann Jones	Jared Reynolds	
Cindy Willis	Trina Cotterman	
Julia Armstrong	Lee Marchant	

***Welcome & Introductions:***

Welcome to our USBE partners. We appreciate them joining us. Thanks for being willing to change the date on this council meeting due to the snow day last month. DT graduation is coming up on January 13. USBE is invited.

***Accreditation:***

Accreditation has been completed. We won't have the results for a while, but early indications are that we did very well and can expect high scores. Initial takeaways are that our strengths lie in our mentoring. We were encouraged to further develop our technology integration and data development. Cindy Willis shared how the teachers are using the data to direct changes in student instruction, improve student success and determine student placement. Julia asked about our Star 360 usage. We are using that as a tool to make adjustments to our curriculum and instruction. It would be helpful if we could get the Star 360 testing from other districts when students enroll with us. Star 360 is being administered in our facilities at the beginning and end of each quarter.

***FERPA:***

Our previous MOU expired in 2020. After discussion with our legal department, we were informed that we can share information with DHS designees at which point adherence to FERPA becomes their responsibility. The best practice is to release information primarily to assigned caseworkers, biological parents or through subpoena.

### ***District Covid Updates:***

A document was reviewed by council members that reflects recent school guidance from the County Health Department. Specifics were addressed with the group noting that much remains in place with the exception of quarantine time being reduced from ten to five days. Jason reminded members that we continue to work in conjunction with our facility partners to ensure that collective safety guideline are being consistently implemented and honored.

### ***Grants:***

- Supplemental Grant – This will be used for another Origination Room as well as new technology for our teachers and staff. Select YESS staff are also being provided some additional professional development opportunities.
- Annual Grant – This is projected for release around April. Jason encouraged members to review their site needs and interests between now and next meeting to determine what may be beneficial for student support and learning at their sites. Jason mentioned that available working space and facility staffing should be considered as we explore our options. He also encouraged members to consider mentoring and technological possibilities, as revealed in the recently completed accreditation visit results.
- Land Trust Grant – We reviewed goal to utilize monies toward paraeducator (reading tutor) compensation. ***Motion to approve: Vote called: 3 voted Yes, 3 absent. Motion approved.***

### ***Mentoring (Trina & Ann):***

Trina shared our current mentoring data. Our current mid-year numbers are at the level that we usually have by school years end. The results of our data is allowing us to structure our mentoring to best help students find success in school. Ann answered questions regarding mentoring and shared how it is working in our secure facilities. Cindy agreed that mentoring is making a difference with students that are leaving our program and returning to schools. Darcie asked about the monthly mentoring report that goes out to caseworkers and foster parents. She will encourage case workers to use that data.

### ***YESS Website:***

Brenda reviewed with council members the YESS blog and the events that have been happening in facilities since last meeting. Members were encouraged to periodically review our online resources and to share celebrations of student success that we can post for all to see.

### **Meeting adjourned**

***Next Meeting: February 16, 2022 @ 12pm***