



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 21st century workforce.

YESS Program LAC/Community Council February 16, 2022

Attendees

Jason Rosvall	Benji Carrier	Kalo Tupao
Brenda Monson	Lisa St Louis	
Ann Jones	Trina Dickinson	
Cindy Willis	Cara Stephens	
Julia Armstrong	Stephanie Sinju	

Welcome & Introductions:

Welcome, we appreciate you taking the time to come and work with us.

Accreditation:

- Final report reviewed. Rating system is organized within a color system: yellow, red, green, and blue. Engagement, implementation, results, sustainability, embeddedness.
- Leadership Standards: Impacting and Improving marks. The only improvement they suggested was feedback data.
- Learning Capacity Standards: Impacting and Improving. Educators gather and analyze data to improve student learning. One strength is our use of the Star 360 tool. We are looking into why we have discrepancies within different reading assessments. We want to make sure the data is accurate and is benefitting our students.
- Our only red mark: Using digital resources within learning and operations to improve student performance. We have hurdles in taking digital learning to some students. *Input:* We would like to see more, but we need to find a way to monitor and make it safe. A suggestion was presented as to whether sites could get laptops equipped with LanSchool so that facility staff could better monitor students. Cognia emphasized greater student access to technology. Though we currently use technology in differing capacities throughout YESS, uniform implementation is slippery due to security and facility resource challenges. We will continue with Nearpod, Major Clarity, etc. YESS will also strive to continue encouraging teachers to use more technologically interactive methods within their teaching.

- Feedback:
 - Break Free may be a partner in determining viable technology options. Julia suggested contacting them.
 - Cindy inquired if we were adequately preparing students real-life technological skills for when they are released.
 - Lisa expressed disappointment with the questions the accreditation review team asked. She felt Cognia focused on oversight and how the school and facility interact instead of the school. Salt Lake Valley Youth Center has students that will continue to reside in the facility through high school and into college. She feels YESS has been effective in building and delivering these educational opportunities.
 - Trina inquired whether YESS could move any of the packets they are doing at home to a virtual platform. We are experimenting with sending Chromebooks home with some students.
 - Jason proposed to continue this topic at our next meeting.

We scored well above the national average with a 329.14 score

Annual Grant:

Indications are emerging that funding will be relatively unchanged this year. We are hoping for a release date of March 5th. Benji indicated that USBE is hopeful that the grant might be able to be released in January in the future. Jason suggested to council members to review with their facility leadership teams any initiatives/items that they may want requested within the upcoming grant. We are striving to possibly expand Check & Connect mentoring into Decker Lake and AIM.

Land Trust:

Voting members reviewed the suggested goals and targeted expenditures with anticipated 2023 Land Trust monies. A vote was taken advocating that monies be used toward reading tutor salary. **Yes: 4. No: 0. 1 member absent.**

Parent Teacher Conferences:

Jason asked for feedback about the structure and effectiveness of parent/teacher conferences within facilities. Members stated that the virtual platform appeared to work well overall. Conversation continued to explore the different platforms in use and whether standardization would be beneficial. Some indicated that parents struggled with Google Meet. YESS asserted that perhaps teachers/educational staff could assist with training in the future. What platforms are we using?

Survey Data:

- We didn't get surveys from AIM or DSI. Brenda reviewed participant demographics involving those who completed the surveys
- Teachers are appreciative for the feedback, especially with the student responses
- Facility directors were willing to encourage their staff to do the survey if we provide them with a link that they could share

Feedback from Teachers:

Jason was asked by teachers what feedback they would like him to share with the Local Agency and Community Council

- Importance of communication, they would like the facility to give them notice when changes are coming and how the changes will affect them. Sometimes we cannot move meetings (e.g. IEPs) to adjust to other program functions during the school day.
- When staff is sitting with students, they need to be aware of any distractions they are creating. This includes phone use and talking with other staff.
- Teachers believe that they have great relationships with the line staff and are very appreciative of their efforts to collaborate and support them.

Misc:

- Lisa asked if we could get student IDs for the [long-term] students?
- Our governor would like to attend some graduations. Sites will keep us posted.
- Cindy wants to continue to build a partnership and avenue for students to utilize GTI at her facility

Meeting adjourned

Next Meeting: 4/20/2022