

Community Council Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2019

In attendance: Jenny Pitt, Tiffany Rees, Nicki Ellis, Annette Godfrey, Heather Mackenzie Campbell, Carly Maloney, Jeffrey Horne, Karen Findley, Malissa Wolfer, Melissa Salimbene, Hollie Barenz, Sarah Barlow, Carter Ottley, Mackray Tanner, Sheila Berbert, Jason Smith, Ben Hill, Neola Jones

Motion to approve minutes from January meeting, motion approved

Agenda:

1. Ben Hill explained mid-year spending report. Overall, we have not spent the amount (\$6,000) for laptops that will be coming in the summer. If this is approved, the benefit would be that Shelly Iosefa would have the carts here and ready to go when the laptops get here. Ben explained that Shelly Iosefa is very good at making the money work for the computers in our school, and knowing the needs of everyone. Motion was made to approve use of the surplus to purchase six laptop carts, motion was passed unanimously.
2. There are several committees that have had input on accreditation already. Ben asked if anyone had issues on these items. One of the questions was that teachers have the technology they need by 2021. We are close to that. And in Proposed goals this is addressed. Input is requested, and Mr. Smith suggested that people take a few days to look over that document. The school is requesting input on that until April.
3. Strategic Plan. A "Learning First" video presentation from Davis District was viewed in the meeting. Mr. Hill explained that accreditation was really a part of setting goals within our strategic plan.
 - a. Goal #1 – to keep our ACT goal. (Jenny Pitt discussed the value of this goal. Nicki Ellis asked if we could address the science section in the ACT, seeming to need more training in the Science area for students. Our scores seem to be lower in Science.
 - b. Goal #2 – maintain our graduation rate and post-secondary enrollment in a college or technical program.
 - c. Goal #3 – we want our employees to feel empowered to self-select how they spend their time, and also to be able to request funds to attend summer training, etc. (Jenny reminded the council that some of the math teachers have already requested summer training / planning). The English Department has expressed a desire to do that as well, as well as the Social Studies department. There was a discussion about why students are struggling in math. It seems to be starting at the end of 9th grade. Mr. Smith stated that we have started a math vertical discussion between the elementary and junior high math departments to discuss the challenges they are having in Math, and the gaps that have occurred between years of math. We hosted a discussion in January that was extremely productive and promising. It will be exciting to see if this helps, Mr. Smith is very hopeful. Mr. Smith feels badly that a student's success in Math is dependent on a family's ability to get a good tutor, paid for by the family. Mrs. Berbert pointed out that there are math teachers at Math Lab right after school Monday thru Thursday. The school is open to other ideas, and invites suggestions. Nicki Ellis said that, after calling the district, she found that there was a tutorial on myDSD. Sarah Barlow asked to comment. She said that she has always struggled in math, and the grading system seems

to be working against her, since so much of the weight was on quizzes or tests. She searched in many different places and was able to use videos from Mrs. Chamberlain, of her giving the lesson in class. She said that students need to be responsible for their own math grade and find the tool that will help them the most. Some are just not good test-takers and have different skill sets. Sydney Anderson also struggles, and she said that she felt that her teachers were packing too much into a class period, that if you missed one thing it seemed that you could never catch up. The videos also helped her a great deal. Carter said that the pace was a problem for him as well, if you are in an honors class. Hopefully the younger kids are being taught better to be able to seek answers and not just be fed the answers. The grading scale can't be changed because it's mandated by the district. We are supposed to be preparing students for college math. There is this constant dialog battle between Principal and the math teachers to try to get students to think year by year towards college math in their senior year. The question is how can we meet the goal and meet students where they are. Mr. Smith said that we mostly want to have the Math department involved in the goal and hear their suggestions. Discussion was had about why we are allowing students to take college math classes in high school, and Mr. Smith explained the value of the CE classes, the benefit of a kinder teacher, longer periods of time to take the same curriculum. The cost benefits are significant. Mrs. Wolfer explained that it's so beneficial to take math in their senior year, and Mrs. Findley explained that many students drop out of college because of Math 1050, and that we are trying to ensure a student's success in college. (Alix will be discontinued next year)

- d. Goal #4 – Student Growth and Achievement. Teachers need to know that they can no longer count on showing something on the screen and expect to have academic development taking place. Mr. Smith wants our group to understand that sometimes there is not a finish line, that it's a constant move toward.
- 4. These goals do not need to be approved today, but council members were asked to think about these going forward, and teachers will be encouraged to make suggestions as well.
- 5. Next meeting is March 20. Meeting was adjourned