

Community Council, February 5, 2015

Minutes

Members Present: Mark Durfey, Anne Hunter, Danni Eisert, Mary Ellen Rosen, Anita Longhurst, Lesa McSwain, John Goldhardt, Jennica Murray, Crystal Spackman

Others Present: Ilene Nelson

- Minutes from January Meeting approved. Danni Eisert made the motion to accept; Mary Ellen Rosen seconded it.
- Dr. Goldhardt gave a quick review on what was discussed at the Community Council Training Meeting held on January 15th. Trustlands money (3-5%) can now be used for improving the school environment, i.e., bully prevention, etc. Also, teachers will now be elected by secret ballot. They can serve a 2-year term. Board members need to watch the training video before the next meeting if they have not done so already.
- Nothing has been done yet to work with the district on reducing the internet firewall, but Kelly and Jeremy Taeoalii have an appointment with Dr. Hirase to discuss it.
- Mark Durfey is working on getting a form for teachers to use to submit proposals to the Community Council for a request of funds. Purpose must be clearly stated as well as a way to track the effectiveness of the funds in addressing that purpose. It should also include how it helps students and how many students will be helped. If possible, teachers should come and present their proposals. We will also need to know if it is a one-time request, or will be resubmitted annually.
- A test to measure reading levels still has not been approved by the district. The school is looking into buying it (SRI- Scholastic Reading Index). Crystal Spackman mentioned that it is a common practice in other districts to assess a testing fee from all students at the beginning of the year. She said it is nominal, usually around \$7-8. This could be a possible source of revenue. Mary Ellen Rosen also mentioned the possibility of requesting a grant from Larry H. Miller Foundation to help with the costs. Crystal

Spackman said she would look into writing one. Danni Eisert also mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce may be willing to donate.

- Dr. Goldhardt said that the present mentoring system is ineffective. He has been trying to have parents personally contacted if their children do not come to school. He said this seems to be more effective.
- We discussed how to best help students fill learning gaps. Dr. Goldhardt has started to use student focus groups to get student input on how they learn best, and what teaching style works best for them. He does a repeat evaluation later on to help clarify their input, thus making the information more reliable. Teachers will be doing professional development training on February 13. Boys and Girls Club is still funding our after school math tutoring. The school will also be offering an Independent Study Skills class next year. It will be referral based, pass/fail and placed at the last hour of the day. It will especially be helpful to student athletes who have little time outside of the school day to complete work. Another program called “School Success” is being used to pair high risk kids with peer mentors. Some success has already come with helping these kids feel more integrated and part of the school, since some of these kids have come to after-school events which they have never attended before.
- Dr. Goldhardt again invited members of the council to be on the committee for “U” policy review.
- Meeting adjourned.