

Murray High School Community Council Meeting
Feb. 10, 2016

Council Members in Attendance: Jennica Murray , Mary Ellen Rosen, Laurel Fetzer, Cherie Clawson, Nita Tuitupou, Carla Christensen, Anita Longhurst, Amber Rydalch, John Goldhardt
Others in attendance: Caden Seiter, Kelly Taeoalii, Ilene Nelson

1. Minutes from November and January meeting were approved by Nita Tuitupou and seconded by Carla Christensen.
2. Update on the later start time. Salt Lake School District has done a survey on the later start time and will publish it in April or May. We will follow up on their survey when it is published and maybe administer a survey of our own.
3. Anita Longhurst checked into the Boeing opportunity for our school. Ben Hart is the Managing Director for Urban Development for the Governors office and he is the contact for the Boeing opportunity. She talked with him and told him that we are very interested in having this program at Murray High. He said that it won't be available to us next year but maybe for 2017-2018 year.
4. School accreditation update- According to the needs assessment Murray High School needs to improve in four areas. These are English and Language Arts, Math, Communication with parents, and Student Engagement. Dr. Goldhardt asked for input in these four areas. He told us that English is going to be focused on all students at the high school. Math improvements will be focused on regular math classes and not honors classes. Proficiency studies show that students in honors math have a 70-80% proficiency rate and regular math kids have a 14% proficiency rate. The communication with parents needs to be improved in two ways- one is initial communication on what is going on in the classes and two is response to parents when they communicate with teachers. The student engagement is all about student involvement in the learning process and using different methods to teach information besides lecturing.
 - a. Community council parents gave feedback for "Communication with parents" as follows. 1) Encourage teachers to respond to parents inquiries within a certain amount of time- like 24-48 hours. 2) Create an automated response for teachers when they receive an email that tells the parents they have received the email and will respond soon. 3) Create a video tutorial on how to use the SIS/ ASPIRE system. 4) Have teachers have assignments updated in the SIS/ASPIRE system. 5) Create a forum either on the website or other to communicate school traditions like Jr. Prom, Project Graduation, etc. so all students know of the traditions. Use Spartan Vision to help create videos and try to help reach out to people who speak a variety of languages. Our Caucasian population at MHS has decreased by about 30%, our Hispanic population has increased by 15%, and our low socioeconomic status students is around 30% of our population. Murray High will be getting a new website soon. It will hopefully be more user friendly, easier to navigate and help with questions regarding registration better.
 - b. Community council parents discussed with Dr. Goldhardt suggestions on student engagement as follows: 1) Dr. Goldhardt suggested the idea of using flipped classrooms- classroom instruction is presented in a video format and is the

“homework” for the day as is done at home. The classroom time would be for work and engagement. This could be used as a Blended or Mixed classroom which is where instruction is flipped sometimes and regular other times. 2) Maybe have a computer class or lab for kids who don’t have a computer. 3) Create cooperative learning so each individual student is accountable for the information which is similar to group learning but requires individual accountability for learning. 4) Adding music to instruction. (Listening to music played at 60 beats per minute improve learning- Mozarts music is 60bpm.) 5) Using brain based learning.

- c. Community council parents gave these suggestions on improvements in Math as follows. 1) Peer learning or tutoring. 2) Stations. 3) Using study hall and peer tutoring together. 4) Utilize parent volunteers to help with individualized math instruction to work out troubled areas. 5) Find ways to evaluate student’s weakness and strengths and provide instruction for the weaknesses to be improved.
 - d. Community council parents did not spend much time discussing improvements in English and Language arts instruction.
5. Update on School Centennial celebration. Murray City is providing and paying for a float for the July 4th parade based on the Centennial celebration.
 6. Update on the council plan and goals for 2015-2016. The school is working on its needs assessment part of their goals currently as discussed above.
 7. Transcript process for graduating seniors. Is there a way to make it more user-friendly and easier for the students to track? Currently, the transcript process is not tracked well. Students make a request to send transcripts to a certain college and they cannot check anywhere but with the Registrar to see if it got sent. The college also creates a stack of transcripts and they cannot tell the students if their transcripts are received or not until they get to them in the stack. Some students think that their transcripts were sent and are waiting in the college transcript pile but they haven’t been sent by the school. The community council made a request to make an online or paper log to be able to see if the transcripts got sent from the high school. The transcript process is quite laborious for Donna West who has to print it, stamp it, seal it in a certain way so that the Universities will accept the transcripts.
 8. Other items were: Parents will have an opportunity to be train as to how to fill out the FAFSA during parent teacher conferences. The FAFSA is the Federal Application for scholarships.
 9. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.