

Sand Springs Community Council

Jan. 9, 2017

MINUTES

Those present: Jody Schaap, Melanie Smith, Nancy Watkins, Cheryl Christensen, John Speth, Kerri Kingston, Sarah Johnson, Annalisa Glenn, RaeAnn Shelley, Jenni Adams

Absent: Miranda Rasband, Julie LaRocco (off track)

Guest: Logan Toone

Previous Minutes were approved (motioned to approve by Nancy Watkins and Seconded by Sarah Johnson.)

SAGE Scores discussion:

Logan Toone from the district explained that parents have four concerns about the SAGE test.

- 1- Political Concerns - Federal government's involvement in testing. ESEA (2001) requires that 3-8th graders take test in Language Arts, Math and Science (not in 3rd grade). Utah has a state mandate for 3-11th graders to do standardized testing. In grades 9-12, the ACT will now fill that requirement. Test used (SAGE) has to be vetted by the federal gov.
- 2- Content of the test - Concerns with the potential threat to the societal value system we have. This is heightened because only a select few get to see the test questions. Test questions were written by teachers and piloted then evaluated over 2-3 years, then not used anymore. There is a 15 member parent review committee to see if questions meet our cultural expectations.
- 3- Data security-Where the data flows. The district is steward to the information and has a secure data share with the state. The state sends info. to AIR (company who created SAGE test) to create test questions etc. State's contract with AIR expires in Dec. 2017. USOE is looking for a new testing company. State owns the data and is not allowed to share info. with anyone. Also, aggregate (non-identifiable) vs. deaggregate (identifiable information) is a concern.
- 4- Inside the classroom - The tests are too much for the students. Long and arduous. Parents may talk to teacher one on one to see what's right for each student. SAGE is an adaptive test meaning that as students answer correctly, they keep going until they can't answer a certain % of questions correctly. The practice tests (interim) are not adaptive. Teachers can also make short testing experience for students with 8-10 questions as a practice.

95% of our students take the SAGE test. The opt-out students are not included in the statistics. In 2015 5.5% of students opted out. In 2016 4.8% of students opted out. 4.2% of district opted out compared to the 5% of students in the state of Utah.

SAFETY:

Discussed having better protocol for drop off/pick up. Jody will discuss with PTA to find solution to unsafe practices. Talked about having parents sign a contract like the "Acceptable Use Agreement" for technology at beginning of year. RaeAnn and Jody will discuss further, as kindergarten pick up/drop off is most concerning. We want to remind parents to respect others.

SIP Trust Lands budget update:

Collaboration money will be coming out soon. We've used \$33,834.87 of the \$93,474.22 available.

Other:

Kindergarten aids were realigned, but are still there the same amount of time.

Adjourned until **March 6, 2017** at 4:00 in the library.