

Mountain View Elementary School
Community Council Meeting
Minutes
September 14, 2011
5:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Conducting-Kyle Roche, Co-Chair, Parent Member
 Lynette Wiggins, Co-Chair, Teacher Member
 Don Beatty, Principal Member
 Paul Adams, Parent Member
 Diana Hagen, Parent Member
 Jamie Noble, PTA President, Parent Member
 Nicole Roche, Parent Member
 Thomas Walsman, Parent Member
 Lucinda Buel, Parent Member
 Cathy Siler, Teacher Member
 Darcy Miller, Parent Member
 Mickie Pace, Administrative Intern, Visitor

Absent: Tobin Hagen-Parent Member

1. Welcome

Co-Chair Parent Member Kyle Roche opened the meeting at 5:35 p.m. It was requested that all present sign in and if necessary provide an updated e-mail address.

2. Bicycling to/from School

A discussion was held regarding the Mountain View Elementary policy on bicycling to and from school. Currently the Mountain View Elementary School Handbook, Policies and Legal Notices states: *“Due to several hazardous traffic routes that exist within school boundaries, Mountain View Elementary Students are not permitted to ride bicycles to school.”* Many parents have approached Principal Beatty and community council members asking about this issue. It was determined that each school has the discretion to make the decision whether or not students may ride their bikes to school. The council discussed safety issues, particularly the danger of students crossing or traveling along Highway 193. The school’s SNAP (Student Neighborhood Access Program) Plan was discussed. It was decided that presently due to safety concerns the council recommends that the policy remain as stated in the school handbook. The council recommended that Principal Beatty publish an article in an upcoming PTA newsletter explaining the current policy.

3. Drop-off/Pick-up Traffic Review

The council discussed the recent addition of the new parking lot and drop off lane. The council expressed its gratefulness to Davis School District for allowing this project to go through and to the PTA members and teachers who have helped with the initial traffic control. Currently the council feels that there are no concerns with the traffic flow and are very pleased with the success of the project.

4. Anti-Bullying Initiative and Cell Phones/Texting

The council discussed the Anti-Bullying Initiative and the possibility of students using cell phones during school hours. The Anti-Bullying Initiative allows students to anonymously report any instances of bullying via a phone call or text. It had been suggested that it might be beneficial to allow students the opportunity to use cell phones during school hours to facilitate this program. Mountain View Elementary School's current policy on cell phones and electronic devices as stated in the school handbook states "*Students may carry or possess electronic devices at school and school-sponsored activities.*" However, the handbook also states "*Use of electronic devices during the school days, including pass-time between classes and lunchtime, is prohibited. Devices must be completely powered down, turned off, and kept out of sight.*" This policy is made by the school, according to district standards. The issue was discussed. Mr. Beatty related the concern of the teachers regarding cell phones during school hours. The council recommended that at this time that policy remain as stated in the school handbook.

5. Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

The council was given copies of the No Child Left Behind Federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Summary Report for 2010-2011. Mountain View Elementary was given a Yes* in the report, (* denoting the school was "*within width of confidence interval of meeting requirement*"). In the 2009-2010 AYP the school had been given a No. Principal Beatty praised the teachers for the amazing strides that have been made in the last year. Principal Beatty explained the report and answered questions about the program. It was noted that one of the areas of difficulty was student attendance, and Principal Beatty explained his effort to make each child feel personally responsible and have a sense of pride concerning their own attendance. It was also noted that the State of Utah has sought a waiver of certain No Child Left Behind criteria.

6. Indicators of School Quality (ISQ) Survey

Principal Beatty presented the council with copies of a sample ISQ survey. He explained the survey documented perceptions of the school from teachers, staff, parents, and children. He explained how the perception of the school affects many different aspects of the school. He noted that previously these surveys have been very beneficial in determining areas where improvements could be made. He noted that the surveys will be sent home the first week of October.

7. Emergency Preparedness Plan

Mickey Pace, Administrative Intern, addressed the Emergency Preparedness Plan. She explained the current plan. The notification of parents was discussed and it was determined that the plan need to be amended to remove any reference to a calling tree, as all notification would be sent through the automated phone service. Mrs. Pace requested that a parent member of the council review and approve the plan as required. Diana Hagen volunteered to provide the review and approval.

8. Parent Concern Relating to PTA Fund Raising

A parent had raised a concern regarding fund-raising to the Community Council. He was invited to attend, but did not attend. Co-Chair Kyle Roche read the e-mail from the parent to the council. The council did their best to determine the parent's concerns and address them. Jamie Noble, PTA President and Parent Member, and Darcy Miller, PTA past-President and Parent Member, explained that the list of expenditures contained in the e-mail was taken directly from an article in the PTA September 2011 newsletter. The article was to explain to parents where the PTA funds were being spent. The expressed their gratitude to the parents who participate in the fundraisers and stressed that all fundraisers, either school or PTA, are strictly voluntary. The council agreed that it was the opinion of all present that participation in fundraisers was voluntary and in no way required, consistent with district policy. Principal Beatty discussed Utah law regarding providing public education to every primary student. The council also agreed that it was the members' feelings that the items listed were very beneficial to the students and their education and that all present were grateful to those who participated in the fundraisers and contributed to making Mountain View an exceptional place of learning despite the rough economic times. Principal Beatty noted his intent to disclose the school's budget at the next meeting.

9. Setting Future Meeting Agendas/Items for Discussion

Co-Chair Roche discussed the role of the Community Council. He discussed both the State of Utah statutes regarding open meetings and the policies of the Davis County School district regarding public meetings and the Community Council. According to Utah Open and Public Meeting laws, the meeting is open for the public to attend and observe the public body doing the public's business; however, the meeting is not necessarily open to the public for participation as the council is a representative body. As stated on the Davis School District Website: *"The public should be invited to attend and observe the meeting. However, it is not required that members of the public actively participate in the discussions at the meeting. If a member of the public is disruptive, they may be asked to leave. The public is represented at the meetings through their casting a vote during the election to select the members of the committee."* It was agreed that the concerns of school community at large may be submitted to any Community Council member for consideration, although determination of the council's jurisdiction over a particular issue might require an issue be sent elsewhere. It was determined that the

Community Council acts as a representative body and any concerns from the public should be brought to the attention of a council member for sponsorship on the agenda. The sponsor of the agenda item has the right to recognize a visitor to a council meeting and ask for their comments regarding the agenda item, if necessary. It was decided that Principal Beatty would add a link on the school website that would allow anyone to submit any concerns for consideration to the Community Council. This link would be directly tied to the Community Council Co-Chairs' email addresses.

Co-Chair Roche also discussed how the council can be in compliance with the Utah Open Meeting laws. All items must be submitted to the Co-Chairs to be added to the agenda prior to the public publishing of the agenda. Co-Chair Roche will attempt to have the agenda to the members for review at least a week before the agenda needs to be published, which according to Utah law regarding community councils is one week. The agenda maybe amended after public posting, however according to Open Meetings law an amended agenda must be published at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. It was determined that Principal Beatty would publish an article in a future PTA newsletter explaining the role of the Community Council and how to contact the members with any concerns.

The necessity of compiling and posting the meeting minutes was discussed. Parent Member Nicole Roche volunteered to keep minutes and record them for publishing.

10. Adjournment

The Council was reminded that the next meeting would be October 26, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. Principal Beatty expressed his appreciation to those who attended.

It was noted that at the next meeting the members will view the Trust Lands video presentation. Principal Beatty will also present the Council with a disclosure of the school's budget.

Co-Chair Roche adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.