

Mountain View Elementary School Community Council Meeting
Minutes
March 25, 2015
6:00 p.m.
Mountain View Elementary School Library

In Attendance: Conducting- Kyle Roche, Chair, Parent-Member
 Nanette Roberston, Principal
 Tiffany Tuck, Administrative Intern/Teacher-Member
 Diana Hagen, Co-Chair, Parent-Member
 Nicole Roche, Secretary, Parent-Member
 Meggan Baxter, PTA President
 Tobin Hagen, Parent-Member
 Lynette Wiggins, Teacher-Member
 Alina Ballard, Parent-Member
 Tanya LaForce, Parent-Member
 Jay Yahne, Parent-Member
 Alica Anderson – Parent Visitor

Absent: Ginger Paxman, Teacher-Member
 Nicole Adams, Parent-Member
 Daniel Baxter, Parent-Member

1. Welcome/Introductions

Chair Kyle Roche opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Chair Roche thanked the Council for their flexibility in rescheduling the meeting.

2. Approval of December 3, 2014 Minutes

Chair Roche moved that the minutes from January 14, 2015 be approved. The minutes were approved without objection.

3. Recess Safety Concerns

Meggan Baxter addressed recess safety concerns. As the PTA president she has had parents come to her and express their concerns concerning recess. There has been a concern that bullying is occurring and a concern that the duties are not responding appropriately to the students' needs. There were many reports of students saying that they felt the duties "don't care" about them and that the duties have been unwilling to act or solve problems. Principal Robertson noted that she was aware there have been complaints that the duties stay by the doors and it had been addressed in a recent JSSC meetings. This is believed to be due to the fact that the outside doors are locked at all times and a duty needs to let a student in for the restroom. JCSS is looking into a solution for next year including either unlocking the doors during recess or utilizing the

Student Council to open doors as needed. It was also suggested that the students be sure to use the restrooms before going out to recess.

A visiting parent to the Community Council, Alicia Anderson, asked to address this issue. Ms. Anderson reported that her son has had numerous problems at recess due to known social skill problems. She feels that the duties have not responded appropriately to the situation and due to this there have been escalating issues concerning this student. She feels that the duties are unwilling to be in close proximity to the students and because of this her child is being accused unfairly of creating problems. She has been working with the student's teacher to find a solution, including establishing a safe area to play in which the student can be closely monitored; however, the solution has ultimately ended up with the teacher acting as a duty during recess for her class rather than allowing the teacher that prep time. Ms. Anderson reported that one day she stood just off the playground to observe. She saw that the teacher was on the playground as duty but the duties never moved from their spot near the door to the school and a good deal of the time the duties were not facing the students. It took the duties ten minutes to notice her standing there and they never approached her to ask why she was there despite school policy that all employees ensure that all visitors check in and wear some form of identification.

Many members of the MVCC echoed their own personal concern and related many similar instances of concern about student safety and the effectiveness of the duties and the interactions they have with the students. There were many reported instances of the duties staying in one spot, not interacting or even being in proximity to the students, texting, requesting that another student bring an injured student to them instead of going to the student, and accusing the students of being "tattletales" and dismissing problems instead of addressing them. Principal Robertson also noted that it has been a concern with the faculty that the duties are not documenting problems on the playground using the proper forms as they should be; instead, they tell the teacher of the problem or another student does.

The question was raised whether or not Mountain View could hire more duties; however, due to budget issues this is not possible. The question was also raised whether or not volunteers could be used to help the duties. This is not possible due to strict laws concerning background checks for individuals who work with children. It was also mentioned that next year recess would be changing due to a need for more front office staff; there will be more grade levels at recess and no longer any afternoon recess, except for kindergarten and first grade. Principal Robertson said she will continue to work on recess safety and that she would be having a meeting with the duties to address the concerns raised.

4. SNAP Plan

Administrative Intern Tiffany Tuck presented the MVCC with the SNAP plan. There is still concern about the safety of the students traveling to and from Mountain View. She had recently spoken with Penny Faulkner about any measures that maybe taken to improve the safety. Mountain View does not qualify for school zone signs or a school zone light due to the fact that the students do not officially cross the street in front of the school. Tobin Hagan reported that last year he had spoken to the city about it and that he had driven the area with a police officer to determine if there was anything the city was able to do. It was noted that at least 800 cars must pass the area to qualify. The city had said they would put a sensor out to monitor traffic but as of yet had not done so. It was also mentioned that the city may be willing to assign several cycle police officers to patrol the area. The Council will follow up with the city to ensure follow through.

5. Trust Lands Plan

Principal Robertson and Chair Kyle Roche have met to determine a proposal as to how best to utilize the Trust Lands budget. They had come up with a financial plan for next year to present to the MVCC for their input and additionally need to propose amendments to the current year budget.

While attempting to determine next year's budget it was determined that three quarters of the budget, approximately \$29,000, was primarily for salaries of tutors and a small amount for teacher professional development. It was determined that a substantial "cushion" of approximately \$9000 was in place in the salaries' budget. It is not feasible nor necessary to spend this amount on salaries in the next several months. Instead, it was proposed that the money be reallocated to technology. Principal Robertson contacted Dr. Logan Toone at the District who said it was possible to move the money between existing categories within the current Plan as long as it was approved by the MVCC. With the need for technology funds being so great, this seems to be the best plan for the excess funds.

A motion to transfer \$7,000 from the 2014-2015 Trust Lands salary fund to the Trust Lands technology fund was made and approved unanimously, with Kyle and Nicole Roche recusing themselves due to Nicole Roche's employment as a tutor.

For next year the projected budget is at least \$40,000, possibly more based on Mountain Views growing enrollment. To be conservative the MVCC will work under the assumption that we will have a budget of \$41,000.

Previous budgets had included funds allocated for AR and IXL, both of which the district is doing away with, and library funds, which the new librarian is working on utilizing grants to receive funding.

Tutors – Previously the budget allowed for 174 tutor hours for the school year, with each tutor receiving a different amount of hours. It has been proposed by Principal Robertson that the hours drop to 146 hours for the school year. The tutors would each receive approximately 11 hours a week and would start later and end earlier in the school year, and would not work during shortened weeks such as fall break and Thanksgiving break. This would apply to all except for the Tutor Coordinator who would start earlier and end later in order to help with testing, she will also receive approximately an additional two hours a week, giving her approximately 13 hours a week. The total cost of this would be \$17,900; however, it is proposed that \$20,000 be allocated, allowing a cushion in case of any unforeseen events. Additionally, Principal Robertson added that the tutor program would be changing. The current model has involved the tutors pulling the lowest group of kids to work with them. Instead Principal Robertson would like to implement the district preferred model of the tutor staying in the classroom and assisting the teacher with the students, while the teacher would take the lower students aside to work with them, allowing the lower students to receive aide from a certified teacher. Each teacher would receive 25 minutes a day 4 days a week, with 5 minutes allowed for the tutor to rotate to the next class. Principal Robertson has also decided that the tutors will likely no longer be aiding with testing at the end of the year and that Dibels testing done for the 4-6 grades by the tutors, which takes up 3 weeks a year and paid for by the school, will no longer occur. Dibels testing for K-3 is mandatory and is conducted and paid for by the District.

Professional Development – Previously, professional development consisted of one day prior to the beginning of school in which each teacher received a stipend for attending the training. Principal Robertson proposes an alternative to this method in order for the school wide instruction model to be enhanced and more collaborative. She would like to instead have multiple trainings for the teachers throughout the year. She would like to have district trainers come and work with the teachers during class times. This would require a half-day substitute while the trainer worked with the teacher modeling the method while the second half of the day the trainer would watch the teacher implement what they learned in the class room. The training is provided by the district for free, the only cost would be for the substitutes. There would be three possible plans each with different funding. 1 – One half day four times a year (or one week) for approximately \$6600. 2 – One half day eight times a year (or two weeks, one in the fall, one in winter) for \$13,000. 3 – One half day sub 1 time a year for \$1600. The MVCC supported the first option of one half day four times a year for \$6,600. It was suggested that it would be possible to add two days. One day would be in January on a

professional development day, in which there would be no need for subs and therefore no cost and that we add one more day for a total of \$8,250.

Technology – The technology needs of our school currently are far greater than our available funding. This is due in large part to much of the schools aged technology beginning to fail. In order for our technology needs to be met we would need approximately \$29,500. \$17,000 would go to replacing 25 projectors. The additional funds would be used to purchase Apple TVs, iPad airs for the teachers.

Based on a \$41,000 projected budget, the MVCC proposed the following Trust Lands budget for the 2015-1016 school year:

Tutors	\$20,000
Professional Development	\$8,250
Technology	\$12,750

A motion was made to approve this budget for the Mountain View Elementary School 2015-2016 Trust Lands budget. The motion was seconded and was unanimously passed, Kyle and Nicole Roche recused themselves from the vote due to Nicole’s position as a tutor at the school.

Davis School District has already given Mountain View Elementary two specific goals and measures, plus one additional goal with measures to be determined, for the Trust Lands Plan.

- Goal 1 – Increase student reading and math proficiency.
- Goal 2 - Improve Mountain View’s chronic absenteeism.

Goal 3 will deal with quality staffing for Mountain View. Council members were asked to review information provided by Principal Robertson and if possible attend a working meeting on April 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. Attendance at this meeting is not required and will not count against council member attendance. A district wide planning meeting will be held on April 13th. Principal Robertson, Mrs. Tuck and Chair Roche will attend to complete the draft Trust Lands Plan for next year.

6. AR Follow-up Discussion

Due to restricted time AR replacements were briefly discussed. Each grade submitted their proposed plan to replace AR. Prinipal Robertson will forward these to Chair Roche who will distribute them to the MVCC. The website Book Adventures was reviewed by a few parent members and they were not impressed with the website. They were unable to find the Scholastic website to review it.

7. Known Issues/Items for the Next Meeting

A working meeting will be held April 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting will be April 29, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.