

Mountain View Elementary School Community Council Meeting
Minutes
January 25, 2017
5:30 p.m.
Mountain View Elementary School

In Attendance: Conducting- Kyle Roche, Chair, Parent-Member
Chris Mudrow, Principal
Erika Stewart, Assistant Principal/Teacher-Member
Meggan Baxter, Vice Chair, Parent-Member
Nicole Roche, Secretary, Parent-Member
Xavie Augenblick, PTA President
Julie Baer, Parent-Member
Jason Hall, Parent-Member
Melissa Rueschhoff, Parent-Member
Ginger Paxman, Teacher-Member
Phouangchit Kounthong, Teacher-Member

Absent: Jen Thompson, Parent Member

Visitors: Jami Mitchell, PTA Vice President

1. Welcome

Chair Kyle Roche opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of November 16, 2016 Minutes

Chair Roche presented the proposed minutes from November 16, 2016 council meeting. A motion was made by to approve the minutes and was seconded. The minutes were approved without objection.

3. Bylaw Amendment: Vacancy Due to Move

Chair Roche addressed the issue that was brought up at the previous council meeting, that of a bylaw amendment to address vacancies on the council due to a parent-member moving. He reported that he and Parent-Member Melissa Rueschhoff had worked on two similar versions of a proposed bylaw to address the issue: one which spoke in terms of a member “who no longer lives within school boundaries” versus a member “who moves outside of school boundaries”. All of the remaining proposed language was the same. The council discussed at length the difference between the two and how it might potentially affect parent-members at Mountain View, particularly in light of the number of PALs and Spectrum students and related boundary variances granted for the school. After extensive debate, a motion was made and seconded to adopt the language including “who no longer lives within school boundaries”. This version of the bylaw amendment passed without objection. The full text of the approved bylaw, as presented to the council, accompanies these minutes.

4. Follow-up: Safety Discussion and SEP Week

At the November 16, 2016 council meeting, safety concerns were addressed, particularly in relation to the pick-up and drop-off area. There was also discussion of a safety week, possibly during SEP week. It was suggested that the students address the concerns and remind the adults of appropriate behaviors. It was asked that this be added to the January agenda. Unfortunately, as SEP Conference is next week it has been asked that discussion of Safety Week be tabled until a spring meeting. The council would like this issue addressed prior to the beginning of school and ideally have a safety week twice a year.

The idea of switching the bus and carpool lanes was suggested to possibly address congestion concerns; however, due to safety concerns it is not feasible to switch.

As a final note on safety, the council extends its thanks to all of those hard-working employees who have spent their mornings clearing snow this winter so that we have a safe area. Thank you, Chou, Jesse, and Principal Mudrow. And to “honorary employee” and perpetual volunteer Tobin Hagan for his constant efforts in keeping our kids safe.

5. Begin Discussion of 2017-18 SIP/LAND Trust Plan

In previous years, Davis School District, has set three goals for Mountain View. Last year’s goals were 1) Literacy: an increase in kindergarten through third Dibel scores from 69%-73%. This is achieved in part by using tutors that enable the teachers to follow the district model of small group intensive work. 2) College and Career Readiness: decrease absences from 7% to 5%. 3) Quality Staffing: ensuring quality new hires as well as strong professional development which is being taught by Dr. Fawson. These general goals were set by the district.

The council set two additional goals as well: increases in 4) student proficiency in SAGE Language Arts and in 5) SAGE Mathematics. The goals are achieved with the use of small-group instruction by teachers as assisted by LAND Trust-funded tutors, as well as improved technology paid for with LAND Trust funds.

As enrollment increases, so does our projected total. Our enrollment is expected to increase next year. We are excited to project \$56,884 will be receive from LAND Trust Plan. At the March 2017 council meeting, we will be working on putting the plan together so that it will be ready for the district’s Learning First! day, where peer review of proposed plans occurs. At the April 2017 council meeting, a final draft of next year’s proposed plan will be considered for approval and signature.

6. Known Issues/Items for Next Meeting

Per council bylaws, Parent-Member Jen Thompson has missed half of the scheduled meetings and is deemed to have vacated her council seat. Chair Roche explained to the council that it is up to the parent-members to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of office, and explained options and how it has been done in previous years. The parent-members suggested that those who ran for a council seat in the fall election be contacted to see if they might still be interested in serving and if so, their name(s) be presented at the next council meeting for consideration. Principal Mudrow and Chair Roche will follow up with this.

Ms. Stewart asked that the SNAP be reviewed at the next meeting on March 22, 2017. Parent Member Jason Hall asked that it be noted how lucky our school is to have such supportive teachers to our students. He related his son's experience as he competed at the district level in the Martin Luther King Jr. speech contest. Ms. Shepherd, Ms. Rostal, Mrs. Kohl, and Principal Mudrow all made arrangements so that they could attend to support their students.

A motion was made to dismiss the meeting by Julie Baer, the motion was seconded by Jason Hall. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02.

[Proposed Bylaw Amendment w/ Talking Points: Vacancy Due to Move]

Parent-members are elected to two –year terms, and are eligible to serve in office so long as they have a child enrolled in the school or will have a child enrolled in the school during their term in office. ~~with those~~ Parent-member elections shall be staggered so that approximately fifty percent of the parent-members stand for election in a given year. Educator-members also serve two-year terms. The Mountain View PTA president’s or co-presidents’ term coincides with his and/or her term as PTA president.

In order to ensure that elected members are properly representing their constituents, any parent- or guardian-member who fails to attend at least half of the scheduled council meetings during a single school year will be deemed to have vacated their position, regardless of the reasons for the excessive absences. Additionally, any parent- or guardian-member who no longer lives within school boundaries, no longer has a child attending the school, and no longer otherwise meets the eligibility requirements to serve on the council shall automatically be deemed to have vacated their position upon concurrence by the principal and the chair and/or vice-chair. The vacant position will be filled in accordance with the procedures below.

Explanation: Pursuant to Utah Administrative Code R277-491-6(1)(b)(ii), councils are required to adopt rules of order which include provisions dealing with vacancies caused by members moving away. Due to a high-level of boundary variances and/or the PALs and Spectrum programs and the high volunteer rate of this portion of our community, many of our council members already live outside of the traditional school boundaries. Simply addressing living outside of school boundaries will not suffice. At the same time, a parent or guardian may have a child no longer “attend” school due to matriculation, illness, etc., and that individual may live or even move outside of the boundaries, but if they are in the middle of their term, by statute, they may still finish their term should they choose to do so. Adding the requirement that the principal and the chair (or vice-chair, presumably if the chair is the individual that has left the council) must concur on the vacancy helps ensure that both the administration and the parents are checking one another before someone is immediately removed and replaced.

Web resources:

Utah Administrative Code R277-491: <http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r277/r277-491.htm>

See also Utah Code Ann. 53A-1a-108: http://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title53A/Chapter1A/53A-1a-S108.html?v=C53A-1a-S108_2016051020160510

Links current January 14, 2017