

KJH Community Council Meeting Agenda

(KJH Conference Room by Library)

Tuesday, December 12th, 3:15pm

Colleen Pierce, Curtis Stromberg, Jennie Coyle, Terrie Tenney, Astrid Kramer, Kent Brown, Nicole Carver, Martha McKay, Jeanne Groberg

Nicole Carver opened Community Council and minutes were read and approved.

Ms. Jennie Coyle led a discussion on student improvement in English test scores. Community Council ask Ms. Jennie Coyle to come with ideas of how the Community Council could be helpful to the English Department in improving testing scores.

Jennie made several points concerning what motivates students in Junior High, including accountability and attitude toward testing. She suggested students do not feel they have to do well on end of level testing because the test is not counted on grades, some students opt out of end of level testing altogether, some classes are not required to test (AP), and some students only partially answer questions. Attitude has a big impact on end of level testing. Although end of level testing is essential, classroom required assignments and SRL testing are a more accurate picture of student ability. Jennie talked about what would be helpful to get an accurate evaluation of student's ability. Some items that she suggested are; measuring required work, doing one to one assessment on writing assignments (which would require a substitute while the teacher does this), common rubrics within departments, parents support of the reading program, and support of end of level testing. Support of end of level testing includes attitude toward tests and encouraging students to do their best. Also helpful is follow up on data dives, which breaks down areas where students score poorly and allows the teacher individualized information on the area. The English department will discuss some items for Community Council to help; including providing substitutes for classes where teachers would do one to one assessments and providing readers for writing assignments. Also suggested; teachers provide a syllabus so that parents know what is coming and how to help students prepare better for assignments and tests. This syllabus needs to be available online for the parent to bypass the student so they know what is coming up. The dsd online information is previously graded and often after the fact. It is the goal of both teachers and parents to help students go into a test with a good attitude and a feeling of confidence, whether the test counts on grades or not.

Community Council would like science teachers to feel the same support they are offering the English department. Community Council will invite the science department to a similar presentation in January.

Principal Stromberg suggested February would be the month for proposing next year's trustlands expenditures.

Parent Newsletter from the Community Council (Martha) Thank You! Newsletter will be posted.

Next Meeting January 9th at 3:15pm