

Mountain View Elementary School Community Council Meeting
Minutes
February 13, 2019
5:30 p.m.
Mountain View Elementary School

In Attendance: Conducting - Debora Baird, Chair, Parent-Member
 Erika Muirbrook, Assistant Principal/Teacher-Member
 Jennifer Singleton, Vice Chair, Parent-Member
 Julie Baer, PTA President
 Kyle Roche, Parent-Member
 Pauline Spencer, Parent-Member
 Peggy Rafferty, Teacher-Member
 Liz Willard, Teacher-Member

Visitor: Mendy Gardner, School Technology Specialist

Absent: Chris Mudrow, Principal
 Nicole Roche, Secretary, Parent-Member
 Jason Hall, Parent-Member

1. Welcome

Chair Debora Baird opened the meeting at 5:36 p.m., welcoming the council members.

2. Approval of January 9, 2019 Minutes

Chair Debora Baird presented the proposed minutes from the January 9, 2019 council meeting. It was noted that Julie Baer was referred to both as PTA President and Parent-Member. For consistency's sake, the minutes should reflect that Julie Baer is the PTA President. The minutes will be amended to reflect this.

A motion was made by Parent-Member Kyle Roche to approve the minutes with the amendment. The motion was seconded by Parent-Member Pauline Spencer. The motion passed without objection. The amended minutes will be posted to the website.

3. Crosswalk Safety Issue

Principal Chris Mudrow received an email regarding concerns over the crosswalk at Broadwing Drive and 3150 North in the neighborhood. Students are running across the street, it gets very congested, and this creates numerous problems and concerns. Layton City was also emailed. It was suggested this issue be addressed in the Safe Neighborhood Action Plan ("SNAP"). Chair Debora Baird asked Parent-Member Kyle Roche to explain SNAP to the council. SNAP identifies where the crosswalks are, typical pedestrian and vehicular routes to and from school, any safety problems in the area, recommendations for school safety, and the school's official policy as to how students should get to and from school. PTA President Julie Baer expressed concern that

Mountain View struggles with getting adults and students to follow safety procedures within the school parking lot. Discussion ensued.

Parent-Member Kyle Roche made a motion that the SNAP reflect that the council examined the issue and without funding from the district or other sources, it is not realistic to get an additional crossing guard at present, but the council encourages parents and students to follow safe routes and all safety measures outlined in the SNAP as defined. PTA President Julie Baer seconded the motion. There were no objections. This will be reflected in the SNAP when Assistant Principal Erika Muirbrook updates it this spring.

4. SIP Planning

Chair Debora Baird asked Parent-Member Kyle Roche to begin to introduce the draft School Improvement Plan (“SIP”) and the process. Parent-Member Kyle Roche explained the background of the SIP process. Every year, schools are given funding from state Trust Land funds. The chief responsibility of the Community Council is to determine the goals for the upcoming year, and how to spend the school’s share of the Trust Land funds consistent with the goals. Traditionally, the administration recommends data-based goals and presents the needs of the school to the Community Council, who will decide what to fund consistent with the rules established by the Utah Board of Education.

Parent-Member Kyle Roche explained the general layout of the SIP. The first part gives an overall view of the school and district mission and purpose, statistical data, community info, student body, staff, etc. Additionally, it identifies unique features, strengths, and challenges to the school, such as the number of move in and outs due to proximity to Hill Air Force Base. There have been no significant changes to these sections over recent years except for student numbers and notable achievements. There is a section in which the school has an opportunity to brag about successes, such as our MLK speech winners, district awards, etc.

The SIP also includes where the school is improving and where it needs improvement. One area of strength is our ESL proficiency over the past year higher than the 80% district and 70% state averages. Areas that need improvement include being below the state average on growth points in English Language Arts (ELA) and chronic absences and tardies.

All funding must support the goals selected, and the goals are data driven. Many of the goals in recent years have been based on SAGE and Dibels results. Parent-Member Jennifer Singleton asked what SAGE is. SAGE is end of level testing for Math, Science, ELA, while Dibels measures Reading Fluency. This year SAGE will be replaced with RISE.

At this point, Assistant Principal Erika Muirbrook began leading the discussion regarding the proposals for next year’s SIP. She indicated that one area of note should be that reports have changed. Due to differences in reporting in the past, the comparison for last year’s DIBELS data was wrong. Davis School District did not know that they were measuring data differently than the State of Utah. Davis School District was counting students who have been at the school from beginning to end of year. Even if student moved in middle of the year, the district was still counting them. The State of Utah based the data off of students who had been at the school for

the ENTIRE year. Due to this difference in accounting, instead of an increase of 2%, the data indicates a decrease of 1% in Dibels scores.

After meeting with teachers, the administration found that the majority of teachers want to focus on writing, reading (Dibels), and math for next year's goals.

For the current year's goals, we are on track to see an increase in the K-3 Dibels, specifically in K-1. For Goal 2, the SAGE test will change to the RISE test: it will still be the same type of test questions; however, the format and tools will change. Due to this we can expect scores will be down. Teachers have been preparing the students by doing the benchmarks. Mendy Gardner, the School Technology Specialist ("STS") said that some of the Tools are not working as they should. She has made the teachers aware of the problems, and they are helping the students to practice with the benchmarks and be prepared.

The rough draft of next year's SIP goals as proposed by the administration include:

Goal 1 - The State of Utah came in and talked to all districts. It has asked that ALL students kindergarten through 3rd grade need to be making at least 60% will make typical or better growth in Dibels (which will be changing to Acadience).

Goal 2 - The writing goal will have students independently write to a prompt (formative or opinion) but not narrative. The goal is that 80% will score at least 80% or higher. The kindergarten through second grade will be assessed on district rubric. Third through sixth grade will be assessed on the state rubric.

Goal 3- The math median growth percentile will increase 2% from end of this year to end of next year. Growth will be measured instead of proficiency, meaning that the school will seek growth on all levels: traditional student placement, PAL, and Spectrum.

There may also be a need for behavior goal. A behavior program started this year, but it needs to be refined.

Significant discussion began at this point over how much money is currently available under the present plan. This included discussions of why certain items, including head phones, have not yet been purchased when money was allocated for the current year. It also included discussion of the "mini-grant" fund set up for this year, as well as where the budget stand for tutors to-date.

During this discussion, technology needs were presented by Mendy Gardner. The STS is required to have five- year technology plan every year to present to the district. The schools are graded based on their technology. Mountain View is at a B for technology. The things the school is graded on include on how old technology is, sound systems, projectors, teacher computers, etc. Mountain View is starting to fall in its grade. The school is at an A- on projectors. The goal is to rotate the out three old projectors each year. Additionally, Mendy Gardner would like to rotate out one mic and sound system per year. The oldest sound systems in the school are eleven years old.

For 3-6 grades, we have a 1 to 1 device ratio. Mendy Gardner begged, borrowed, and pleaded devices away from other schools. Some of the machines are old. The eventual goal is 1:1 per student for the entire school so that students may take a device with them wherever they go in school, such as SEM or Special Education.

The school is required to rotate out laptops. Next year, two sets will not work with newest Window updates and must be rotated out. Three sets Mountain View purchased five years ago can possibly last for one more year. We need to rotate two sets, but Mendy Gardner would like to hold onto a set so they can be used in emergencies. Four sets of borrowed laptops will be good for one more year. Twelve teacher desktops need to be replaced. Kindergarten has a brand-new cart of iPads. Computer Lab A received a loaned classroom set of iPads this year from another school; however, they will no longer run updates or many apps. It may be possible to make them into a rotation set of iPads with very basic programs like Nearpod. Ten teachers will have outdated iPads next year. Every year, the District gives Mountain View many devices, but they do not supply carts. We are asked to provide the carts which run about \$1000.00 each. The council is asked to budget \$6,000.00 because the school will be getting six carts' worth of devices: five carts of cloud books and one cart of iPads.

The district will provide the school with the twelve teacher desktops unless the school decides to upgrade. They will also provide the ten staff iPads; however, the district will only provide classroom sets of 27 cloud books, and class sizes for next year are projected to be as large as 35. The administration is still trying to figure out class sizes and teacher arrangements, but it must be recognized that numbers can change. Kindergarten enrollment for next year is at the highest it has ever been at this point in the school year: it is already at 100 students without the Kindergarten Round Up. The district distributes devices based on the previous year's enrollment as of March 1 of each year.

Mendy Gardner is still trying to get more information. She is asking the MVCC for an additional ten cloud books. These cloud books would be in case of breakage or growth. This year she asked district for four extra, which she received but used in the first week. We are completely out for rest of this year. Kyle Roche asked how if the MVCC purchases these ten now how will this work with the refresh in five years? Mendy Gardner responded that the district provides extra where it is able: some years the school will get more, some years it won't.

Mendy Gardner is also requesting money for three projectors this year and for money to start the sound system rotation.

Mendy Gardner initially thought the school would be getting six carts of cloud books, however, it will be five carts of cloud books and one cart of iPads for the computer lab. There have been some issues this year with testing, in part due to having both PALs and Spectrum at the same school, as well as WIDA testing and more, that it would be a great solution to have a roaming touch screen laptop cart. These laptops would be available for all classes to use and would have programs that all teachers could use but are not available on the cloud books due to the small memory. This would include programs for science and STEM.

The total cost for all technology requests at this point is approximately \$23,500.00, but may be refined.

Parent-Member Kyle Roche asked for clarification: does the request just refresh existing devices this year? Mendy Gardner explained that with the exception of the ten extra cloud books, yes, but next year she is hoping to start increasing the technology base.

Assistant Principal Erika Muirbrook also stated that one of the priorities of the administration was to continue to fund, and even expand, the tutoring program at the school. This was met with significant discussion regarding the current use of tutors and the costs associated with the program versus the results. Much of the discussion revolved around whether tutors are consistently being used to their full potential and according to the program endorsed by the district and the administration. Both PTA President Julie Baer and Parent-Member Kyle Roche voiced their concerns in expanding the number of tutors without strict compliance with the endorsed program, with their concerns echoed by many members of the council. Teacher-Member Peggy Rafferty shared her experiences in using tutors this year, and Assistant Principal Erika Muirbrook defended the program and advances made in how the current tutors are used; notwithstanding this, there remained disagreement regarding how many of the teachers are fully invested in the endorsed program and whether the tutors are under-utilized overall. Both Parent-Member Kyle Roche and PTA President Julie Baer made it clear they are not suggesting that the tutor program end at this point, but that the current tutors be fully and properly utilized before an expansion of the program occurs.

This discussion again raised the question of where expenditures for the current year stood and why money allocated to certain areas had yet to be spent. Extensive discussion ensued.

Parent-Member Kyle Roche requested a full accounting of where the current year's budget stands at present: what was allotted, what has been spent, estimates of what will still be spent, etc. This will give the council a better idea of how much the council currently has so that decisions can be made whether to amend the current plan and take care of some of the newly-requested expenditures this year; this will also have an impact on what the council might need, choose, or be able to fund next year. The council will likely need to table all discussions of expenditures for next year until a current accounting is provided.

Parent-Member Kyle Roche made a motion that consideration of all funding requests in next year's proposed SIP be tabled until the council receives a full current accounting at the next council meeting. The motion was seconded by PTA President Julie Baer. The motion passed without objection.

It was also strongly encouraged that, and agreed to by, the administration oversee the purchase of the headphones previously approved prior to the next meeting and the accounting being provided.

Parent-Member Kyle Roche made a separate motion that an up-to-date accounting be provided at every council meeting for accountability purposes. PTA President Julie Bear seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

5. Teacher Grant Applications

Based on the prior discussion and adopted motions, discussion of the teacher grant applications will be tabled until the next meeting.

Parent-Member Kyle Roche did note that after reviewing each request against the State's funding guidelines and rules, it appeared that all but one item in one request could be funded if the council so chose. That item was a ball asked for by Mrs. Housley which appeared to fall under "playground, sports, and physical education equipment" and therefore could not be funded.

6. Known Issues/Items for Next Meeting

Chair Debora Baird asked if there were any known issues for the next meeting. It was suggested that the meeting on March 13 be moved from 5:30 pm to 4:30 pm to ensure all items are covered.

Mendy Gardner will provide an updated list of technology needs to the council.

At the next meeting, a more polished draft of the SIP goals will be provided and the funding priorities and teacher grants will be addressed, as well as the current year's mini grant fund. A current accounting will be provided and reviewed. Additionally, SNAP will be discussed.

Parent-Member Kyle Roche made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Chair Debora Baird. The motion passed without objection. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.