

Community Council Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2016

Those in attendance: Callie O'Toole, Tammy Gould, Kim Johnston, Ashley Cook, Joe Bouley, Bryce Krogue and Kimberly Johnston.

Parking Lot Safety Update- Ashley talked with the city regarding hiring a crossing guard for the north-west entrance to the parking lot. City official stated because it is not on city land the school would have to provide a paid staff person. Mrs. Johnston talked about how all of her employees are already using their hours in other areas and there is no extra money to hire someone for that. She said the PTA had done it before but then parents stopped signing up. Council members asked her check if a "Do Not Enter" sign could be posted to prevent traffic congestion and possible injuries from happening due to cars coming in and out of that area. Mrs. Johnston will check and report at the next meeting.

Poor Air Quality/ No recess Policy- Bryce Krogue asked Mrs. Johnston how bad air days were decided and what policy they follow to keep the kids in from recess. There is a lot of research that shows kids do much better academically if they have time to run and relax at recess. Bryce made the point that many kids walk to school and from school and breathe the air with no problems and then they get to school and are denied recess. It was stated that those with Asthma or other breathing issues should not be forced to go outside at recess but Bryce wanted to know if parents could sign a form to let their child be able to go out to recess during "poor air quality" times. Mrs. Johnston said there is no such form. Children must be kept inside. She stated it is a policy put in place by the Utah Health Department. She said that the website airquality.utah.gov is what is checked several times a day to make sure when the children can go out and when they can't.

New Community Council Members-Tiffany Spence and Lee Dial have been nominated to be a part of the council. We need 1 more parent. We have 3 council members leaving next month. Mrs. Johnston will send another e-mail out to parents and tell them more about what Community Council does, the time commitment needed, and the ability to nominate yourself. We will have elections if needed before our next meeting.

Buddy Bench- Last meeting the council discussed using the \$1000 grant the school received for our Instagram photo to buy a Buddy Bench, which is a bench Ashley Cook learned about from other schools where kids who need a friend to play with at recess can go sit on it to signal to other kids that they want to play with someone. After much discussion at our last meeting, it was decided Joe Bouley would do some research on where to buy them and pricing. He got several quotes but the best one was by a company in Spanish Fork called Superior Laser cutting. A 4 foot bench is \$964 and putting the school logo on it would be \$65. It can be made in any color and can be bolted into the ground to prevent theft. The council voted and it was unanimous that a bench should be bought. Joe will order it. Joe also stated that he and his wife would like to donate a second bench to the school which they will pay for entirely.

Trust lands money- Mrs. Johnston explained that this past year the Americorp volunteers have been helpful but the money is better spent giving the teachers 5 more minutes of a Teacher Assistants time so they can do individual group learning. The teachers know the students better and have more education about how to teach them and they have shown tremendous progress by doing these small groups. Callie O'Toole stated all her students in her class are reading at grade level right now which has never happened before in her class and she attributes it to the individual group learning. Also, Mrs. Johnston said some of the Trust Land funds need to be used to give every teacher 1 day per quarter for a substitute so the teachers can collaborate with each other about the new math program that was developed by the District that will be implemented next year and takes a lot of time to prep for. Council members agreed with her assessment and we will discuss it again next meeting with the new members.

Follow-up on Community Council webpage- Mrs. Johnston talked with Mrs. Trimble who says each month she has been putting in these minutes that are typed up but for some reason they are not showing up on the school website. School Wires updated the webpage and that might be the problem. Mrs. Johnston will talk with IT and figure out what is happening.

April Issues- Decide on Trust Lands, School Improvement Plan, Follow up on Parking Lot safety, Webpage, and purchase of buddy bench. Elect new Chair, Vice-chair, and Secretary. Next meeting is April 21, at 5pm.