

MINUTES

Taylor Elementary Community Council

Date | time 9/21/2016 12:00 AM | *Meeting called to order by* Nicki Ellis

In Attendance

Kay Lynn Schick, Nicki Ellis, Emily Daly, Alicia Dovenbarger, Rachelle Merrill, Lisa Thomas, Hillarie Ruckert, Chris Laypath, Bonnie Crook

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from May's meeting have already been approved via email.

Welcome

Nicki Ellis welcomed the new members. For the benefit of the new members Nicki outlines what our committee's functions are. We approve the SIP, and allocate the Trustland funds. We use rules. These are posted on the website along with our agendas and minutes. Nicki made a motion to nominate for a new chair. No one volunteered, so Nicki agreed to do Chair one more year. It was agreed unanimously.

Emily Daly nominated herself for Vice Chair and was seconded by Rachelle Merrill. Voting was unanimous in favor.

Hillarie Ruckert volunteered to be the Digital Citizenship Representative

Emily Daly volunteered to continue to write grants. Donate to update was successful, and it was suggested that we do it again. No one volunteered to head that program at this time.

Lisa is here for the PTA today, but she is welcome to send a representative to each meeting.

Teachers

Bonnie Crook reports that our teachers are wonderful, dedicated, professionals. Our teachers communicate well with the community, and we received an "A" this year. Top 10 in our district. Our overall test scores are great, but our growth is what makes us the best!

Student Council

They have their Safety Patrol working well. They are going to be working on teaching Checkers, and Chess to the student body.

PTA

Our membership has jumped 30%. Our carnival was successful. That money will be turned over to teachers for fieldtrips, and used also for teacher appreciation. Utah.pta.org for a training. www.ammendmentb.com

Kara Hales asked if we had a PTA legislative representative. We don't. Gwen Hill talked with Kara, and Alicia about class sizes. She suggested that petitioning the legislature in future sessions would be a good idea. We are on a list for getting an Aide for the First Grade Classrooms.

Principal Laypath

Thanked us for being a great community council. He is very much appreciative of our staff members, Bonnie Crook, and Kay Lynn Schick for serving on the council. We are looking at the national reading objectives. Most schools won't meet it, but we just might. Nicki mentioned that we have used our Trustlands \$ to pay the aides that facilitate small group work. Teachers attribute our great success with assessment to this process.

Discussion

Announcing about community council and PTA at Back to School night did bring results. It is something we should consider doing again next year.

Homework standard – Talk with the teacher if you have questions about the district guidelines. The reading minutes are counted in the 10 minutes allowed per grade level. Kayscreek Elementary has no homework? Bonnie interjected the test scores are dropping. Kay Lynn mentioned that homework is a matter of teaching responsibility. Rachelle commented that getting them in the groove at an early age is good, but as they progress in grade level, make sure that the frustration level is manageable. Bonnie said that she loves it when parents come and ask about homework.

Lunch - We need to be on time. There have been reports from both a sixth grade student, and second graders. The beginning of school is probably a little bit hectic. We are working on a solution. Rachelle suggested that maybe we do recess first and then lunch. Mr. Laypath suggested that we table this discussion for another meeting.

Withholding Recess: She {Emily} did some research about recess, and it states that recess should not be held as a punitive measure. She suggested that we make a school wide policy. Mr. Laypath suggests that we handle it on an individual basis. Many parents feel OK about that. Preptime specialists are often taking a recess away. It sounds like it was mostly last year.

Next Meeting

9/21/2016 1:00 AM, Conference Room

Nicki asked for a motion to adjourn, Emily motioned, Hillarie Seconded. Adjourned at 2:10