

**Community Council
Viewmont High School
Main office Conference Room**

Minutes – 11/20/19

In attendance: Heather Mackenzie-Campbell, Jenny Pitt, Tiffany Rees, Karen Romrell, Melissa Salimbene, Jason Smith, Michele Strong, Karen Williams, Sheila Berbert, Annette Godfrey, Carly Maloney, Malissa Wolfer, Shon Feller, Kristin Van Brunt, Chad Bowles, Wesley Quinton, Skyler Burningham, Ben Winchester, April Fenn, Neola Jones

Excused: Gabe Robbins

Jenny Pitt welcomed the council and brought the meeting to order.

1. Malissa Wolfer presented on ACT trends across Davis School District. This is based on Act scores up through spring of 2019. Viewmont is trending down, but in an almost statistically insignificant amount. It will be a subtle shift over the next few years. As a Community Council, we need to take that into consideration when setting goals. Malissa explained the breakdown of single tests. Discussion had about content in the tests. Mr. Smith said that he's hearing comments that make him wonder if we are going to go too far in trying to prep our students for ACT. He says he has conversations that they are tired of hearing about ACT so much, and he wants parents to know that we are aware that that may be a problem. Jenny Pitt commented that she has heard that colleges are looking at the 'whole student' more now, and not just the ACT score, and Mr. Smith agreed. We hope that more and more colleges will be willing to look at the whole child, and employers as well. Very few employers care about your transcript, they want to know more about what kind of an employee this person will be. It's important for the kids to know that it's not a "high stakes test". A student can retake the test multiple times, and now, under the new guidelines, they can retake the individual tests and keep the high scores they want to keep. After this year, giving two practice tests, we will be more able to evaluate whether it's good to do two, or if one is sufficient.
 - a. ACT Practice plan – next one is in January: January 21 is an A/B day, January 22 is the test day.
2. Standard Based Grading – Mr. Smith is trying to communicate with as many groups as possible. First, Teacher-to-teacher development is the best way for teachers to learn. This is what we are doing at Viewmont. In our most recent faculty meeting, we divided into 3 groups in classrooms and the three teachers presented a lesson for 40 minutes. Those professional development opportunities are centered on digital learning and SBG as well. We will do this two more times this term, and throughout the school year. We want the community to know what we are doing for professional development. The Standards-Based movement has a lot of momentum from the district. Mr. Smith brought books for the parent members of the Community Council and opened it up to them to read the book. Jenny Pitt asked the question of what the feeling is of teachers, and parents in our community. Mr. Smith stated that, as a school leader, his number one job is always students. But "1-B" is the teachers. There are so many things we could force a teacher to do, but if they are miserable doing that, then they are going to pass those feelings on to the students in their classroom. We have 16 teachers on our SBG committee. About half of them are plowing through it, and are 'all in' on SBG. April Fenn said there is a very good podcast that is about 33 minutes long. It is excellent at answering questions that parent ask him about SBG. She will send the link to Neola, and Neola can distribute that to all of the members. Jenny said that one goal we should possibly consider is to put a little more funds toward professional development.
3. The December 18 meeting is cancelled.
4. Next meeting is January 15 at 2:30 – we will meet with department heads to evaluate needs for grants.
5. Motion was made to end meeting, motion was seconded. Meeting was adjourned.