

Centennial Junior High
Community Council
February 12th at 4 pm

- Welcome – Cindy Jenkins
- Attendance: Cerissa Thompson, Marci McQuiston, Cindy Jenkins, Michelle Thomson, Sean Morrison and Michele Duncan members excused: Marcie Hayes.
- Review and approval of draft notes from previous community council meeting– Michelle Thomson (5 minutes)
Approved - 1st - Sean Morrison
2nd - Cindy Jenkins
- Counselor update -Ms. McQuiston (5 minutes)

Reality Town still needs about 15 more parents if you can help, please sign up...link is in the weekly newsletter.

Academic Honor Roll Stats are in "drumroll please"

69.2% of students are on the honor roll 2nd Term. down from 1st term 73.5%, but this is an expected trend.

If a student makes 0.5 GPA improvement they are recognized with a Little Ceasars Lunch and we had 18 of our students that showed this small but important improvement in their education.

Counselors also do treats for Citizenship improvement/vending machine treats.

Registration will begin end of February in students Science classes
PCCRs will be held in March and April.

6th Grade Showcase will be on March 11th at Centennial Jr High School

We will be campaigning for new Community Council members at this event so hopefully more people will get involved.

Elections will be held after spring break with the goal that the new members will join the committee for the May meeting.

- Principal minute – Principal Thompson (15 minutes)
Budget projections are in order. There are still funds needing to be spent and we expect to carry no more than 10% over to next year. Departments have until April 1st to spend. New requests will be ready for our meeting in March.

ie: Excess in arts funds are due to a successful fundraiser this past December by the Music Department. With Mr. Park retiring, it was mentioned that the new Band Director may need some of these funds to purchase supplies necessary for the upcoming year.

It was also brought up that the new microphone system was a great purchase. It was and will be so good to be able to hear the students performing on stage. Upcoming production of Once Upon an Island starts next week. February 21st performing for three weekends with Saturday matinee's

Summit program update. It hasn't been formally approved, but actions are being taken to bring the program to the 9th Graders at Centennial 2020-2021 school year. 2400 emails went out to parents, 32 people have submitted responses to the email requesting feedback sent out last month. While many still do not want the Summit Program to come to Centennial, they did appreciate the opportunity to give input.

Positive feedback has been that children have been challenged at FHS. "It's fun to look at my child pushing herself and learning new things." Now that teachers have been trained, things are working better and students are finding a lot of success at FHS. Mentoring (MAPS) has been better this 2nd year. My child has been able to stay on track for graduation. "Mentoring and Goal Setting has been good for my child."

Question raised...Is there data as to how this platform is helping out kids to prepare for ACT/SAT and early college prep.

Response: Ms. Thompson will be getting that information and data for us next meeting.

Challenges discussed...

- Questions about computer usage and student responsibility was also addressed as issues we encountered when Centennial started and all students were given computers. This presented its own Pandora box of problems including cyberbullying, pornography and wasted time on video games/online surfing. This still needs to be a top priority. With so many cell phones in the school that work faster than the computers, parents have had to put certain protections on their kids phones. Can the districts filter really protect our kids? It appears they are still getting around it.
- Lack of due dates has been a major problem at FHS and parents still want teachers to be there for questions, not just dismiss the student to look it up on their own. Students at the jr high level definitely need a little more hand holding. Frustration comes when parents have several sources to look at for kids grades and teachers are burdened with

additional questions and needs from parents. It is working for many, but not for others.

- Lack of feedback on assignments from teacher to student. We don't want to lose the connection a teacher has to her students with this platform. Seems there is a disconnect. Response: the online platform should make this easier. Will bring this up with 9th grade team.
- Online Cheating...with a computer, any question asked can be googled. How are we going to address this? Websites keep popping up with the questions and answers to any online material. ie: brainly.com and edgenuity.com. This is concerning to parents and also to our students. One student told his mom, "the assessment tests are frustrating. If the system is making the kids I know who would never cheat do it just to pass the test, is it really worth it?"
- Screen time for social media vs. learning time was questioned as parents felt like there was a double standard. ie: "The school brings in speakers to present about the dangers of too much screen time, but then require the students to be on computers doing homework and other projects including Q&A and Testing at School.

A team from several schools including Centennial went to Pasadena, Texas to see their Connect program in action. Connect is another name for Summit if you would like to look it up on the school district website. Statistics show this to be a similar size district and diverse community with results above those of other schools in the state. For more information visit www.pasadenaisd.com

There will be 2 weeks of onboarding or rollout at the beginning of the school year for students. A parent night to help parents learn how it all works. One in the spring and August 17th in the Fall.

Training on Canvas will also be rolled out as many 6th graders still don't know how to use this platform.

Ms. Thompson and her 9th grade team of teachers are excited to implement some elements of their program into ours next year. There were some very different applications that we don't have at FHS that are going to be implemented at Centennial.

Themes and Incentives...ones they saw in Texas were Becoming a Star, Oscars and Mythological. Kids were excited and checked off things as they learned.

Lots of handholding - fun and exciting are words they described to implementing this new program. Teachers want students to be successful and will focus on this during their 1st Month, 1st Project and 1st few Focus Areas.

This will affect the bell schedule for all 3 grades. Currently looking at a 40 minute mentoring time which translates into 80 minute class periods.

Parents are still concerned about the implementation and Ms. Thompson asks that we give it a chance with a great 9th grade team on board to make some great things happen next year.

IT Support and Digital Citizenship will also be a big part of training and taught throughout the year helping us to avoid many of the social media pitfalls.

The community council has asked to visit with students and teachers at FHS. Ms. Thompson will set this opportunity up so we can see things first hand.

Transcripts are credit based. Students receive 1 credit for completing the entire course even if done early. Some students move quickly so they can take an elective credit during 2nd semester.

Centennial Students transferring to Davis should have no trouble switching back to traditional school programs after using Summit.

Trustlands requests have until 2/14 to submit. Community Council members will have an additional meeting on March 4th to discuss the line items with a final approval from the community Council at the March 11 meeting.

- Review and approval of yearly school timeline was tabled for the next meeting.
- Next years elections Ms. Thompson will send out an email to schools requesting members for next year by March 1st so that elections can happen soon after Spring Break. We hope that new members joining the council will meet together for the May meeting.
- Open forum for questions/concerns

Recognizing that Summit creates a need for some families that have multiple children doing online homework to have additional computers in their home. It was mentioned that the District does have a Computers for Kids program and that families may submit a request to Ms. Thompson for a free computer if this need exists. The computer would then be owned by the family and could be monitored/protected according to individual preferences. An application can be found at

<https://www.daviseducationfoundation.org/for-dsd-employees/computers-for-kids>

Next meeting March 11th, 2020