

Ensign Elementary School Community Council Meeting

4/21/20; 7:30am via Google Meet

Attendance

Parents: Brianne Emery, Ashley Anderson, Linda Scholl, Melissa Riley, Amy Fehlberg

Faculty/Staff: Polly Parkinson, Erik Jacobson, Jennifer Panameno

Absent: Sarah Colonna, Brittany Dimick, Chantelle Rohlfing, Dianne Boogart, Lacey Hola, Dani Phifer

Safe Walking Routes

- Website password reset function doesn't work; other than the crosswalk to nowhere above the school, the routes have had minimal concern
- Erik will let people know about site access issues and will communicate with children who walk to school about the safe routes

LAND Trust Plan

- Almost all signed electronically to renew the current plan (Brianne couldn't access)
- Interventions will be even more critical next year
- Question about timeline: because the district is considering moving to a later approval timetable due to the special session, would we be at risk for needing to change the plan? Erik reports the plan would still be achievable in varied budget iterations

Motion to approve the February Minutes (LS), seconded (BE), unanimously approved 7:43am

Principal's Report (EJ)

- Moving staff to a 4th/5th blended classroom next year
- Currently, no teachers have put in for transfer
- Online learning going well; district pushed out a new plan and Ensign's work is beyond that; there will be more options for parents to select what they can complete at core essential standards will be emphasized as priorities

SIC Report (JP)

- PD next year will continue with engagement strategies and connect with the district performance results
- The last meeting emphasized remote learning as summarized above
- The template to create a calendar hasn't been released by the district yet, this will be reviewed next month
- Question about whether resuming in the fall is the plan (discussed in greater detail below)

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PTA Report (AF)

- Plans to link yearbook option to Back to School night which could include 6th graders
- Gallery Stroll is canceled and the arts budget can fund Ms. Amy but a soft ask will try to recuperate budget totals for future hiring and needs
- Teacher Appreciation is in flux, but the PTA wants to celebrate teachers! Please communicate any way PTA can best support to [Amy!](#)
- Zoom Gallery Stroll? There is discussion for an art walk and the teacher parade was a feasibility model; discussion will renew at the May 1 meeting. In the meantime, check out Ms. Fifield's [website and gallery](#) which anyone can use; also find their work on [Artsonia](#).
- How will graduation work? The district is working on a plan and promotion will be discussed with 6th grade teachers. Please encourage 6th graders to send in yearbook statements!

Legislative Update (AA)

- You can find the status of bills we supported/opposed in the 2020 General Session [here](#)
- More pressing is that the Special Session to address COVID-19 and the earthquake will result in budget cuts; this is presumed to be higher education but the session has not concluded and this could still impact WPU; you can write to legislators asking to preserve WPU and K-12 funding levels in the Special Session on [le.utah.gov](#)
- The constitutional earmark for education funding will be on the November ballot, this will be the next key issue to discuss (find the background on that [here](#)).

Closing Q&A:

- Is there a plan for not resuming in the fall? The district hasn't presented a plan; Ensign would continue with digital learning and making it more robust but Erik feels confident about school resuming. Differing opinions are offered about this likelihood and also follow-up on families who may prefer to stay home: students could continue using Teams and formative assessments are also moving forward digitally.
- How can we really support teachers? Jenny reports that things are becoming more manageable but at the beginning there was a lot of work, Polly reiterates teachers are grieving missing the end of the year with students and that there are many supports offered for mental health and self-care (Blomquist Hale partnership, newsletters, etc.)
- End of year testing? RISE is canceled and other assessments may be canceled. Having Dani and Corey continue check-ins (only 20+/- students haven't had good contact) is the best option for vulnerable families; other methods would either involve questionable handling/hygiene or violate FERPA.
- Any end of year events? Will discuss at the next staff meeting.

Motion to adjourn (AF), seconded (LS), unanimously approved 8:18 am
Save the Date for May 19th for our next virtual meeting!