



Community Council Minutes

11-17-21 @ 4:00 PM

Meeting held in the LJH Media Center

1. Welcome Melanie Smith
 - a. Review of minutes Melanie Smith
 - Addition of Loren Brinkerhoff in attendance at previous meetings
2. Training Review Melanie Smith
 - a. Reminder for all community council members to do the online training for community councils
3. Department review:
 - a. Jacob Baxter: Social studies teacher
 - Funding for preparation days for department teachers has been useful and is appreciated by the teachers. During the preparation time, teachers are creating projects, collaborating with department members, creating lessons, aligning assessment and projects. Teachers also review and edit projects and units. The social studies department uses a day a term for preparation. Mr. Baxter said these days are useful and do not go to waste.
 - b. Mr. Bennion Statement read by Mr. Strain: Science
 - First term projects and quizzes were edited and aligned with district and state requirements during the preparation days.
 - c. Mr. Strain comment:
 - Most content areas review and edit ideas prior to lessons being published on Summit. The time to collaborate during the school year is important for departments because there are changes being made as ideas morph from summer preparations to this fall. Science has had a lot of writing for their content area, and they have spent a lot of time vetting Power Focus Areas and writing content and projects. There was some initial shock at the amount of money asked to set aside for this preparation time, but it is essential and helpful time.
 - d. Mr. Burst Question: What is this money used for? Is it paying teachers outside of contract time or during contract time?
 - Mr. Strain noted that the money is used for paying substitutes to cover a teacher's class while they collaborate with colleagues during the day on content assignments and Summit.
 - e. Question: In elementary volunteers are used frequently, is that possible in junior high?
 - Mr. Strain: I would like to explore this option. The school is willing to pay for the background check for volunteers. We would meet with volunteers and have

some discussions on how to support the teacher in the classroom in the way the teacher needs rather than the volunteer doing things their own way, for example math problems.

- Comments from committee members:
 - We are a community rich in service in could use this avenue to benefit the classrooms.
 - It may reduce some of the angst over Summit to have community members in the building.
 - It may work well for some to volunteer for just one class period because they won't be committed for a day like they would as a substitute.
 - Volunteers do need a background check.
 - This is not convenient or cheap and takes a long time
 - Mr. Strain has suggested to the district how the school can expedite this for the district and will continue to look into it.
 - Teachers will be asked if they would like a volunteer in their rooms rather than being assigned a volunteer.

4. Committees

TJ Strain

a. Student Senate - (Nick Burst)

- Students were split into grade levels. The students were asked to talk about how to improve respect in their school and also how to incentivize students.
 - Mr. Burst thought it was good for kids to be in that environment and for students to be around the administration and have some exposure to admin. It may help them feel more invested in the school over all. They had good ideas, though they did need some guidance.
 - Mr. Burst thinks that gradually the senate may help the school and even help the individual students be known.
 - Question: Did students come up with ideas on how to build respect?
 - Yes. One idea was for the janitors to help score the lunch times and then give rewards for the winning period.
 - Mr. Strain: Students wanted to focus on the positive aspects for rewards and not punishment. He was pleased that some students said maybe students need some training about respect. In the next student council, the administration will work to guide the discussions in the students senate.

b. Summit Improvement Committee Oct 29th TEAMS (Katie Scholer, Krista Nance)

- This will be a meeting on Zoom once a term to see how things are going with Summit in the school
- The format was digital and in attendance were teachers, students and parents. Overall, students were pretty positive. Students had a few ideas of what could be improved, and it seemed teachers already knew about those things. Teachers also noted there were a few things that could change.
- Question: Who decided who was invited to the meeting?
 - Mr. Strain invited students to join the committee.

- Questions: Are there students on it that are struggling with Summit?
 - Yes, Mr. Strain wanted and asked for students on the committee that love Summit and those who hate it.
- Do you have students from all grades?
 - Yes. And I am going to ask for more students to be on it.
- What is the difference between AFA and PFA?
 - Mr. Strain: AFA are not an honors level but additional time spent on them shows increased competency.
- Comment by committee members:
 - I wish there was more support for getting the AFAs done. Students don't work on their own.
 - The English department 7th grade, Mr. Morton, walks the students through it and other classes don't.
 - The AFAs aren't really "additional" because it is necessary to get an "A," and it is information not covered in class.
 - Question: Can you change the grading so that PFAs go toward A's?
 - It was decided by the Summit schools to have this percentage breakdown, but it is something that could be looked at.
 - Questions: The AFAs have different percentages. Why is that?
 - Mrs. Hall: It depends on the number of AFAs throughout the year. Cumulatively they average to 9% but that average will change throughout the year as more AFA can be done. If there is only one AFA available it will be worth the entire 9%. As more become available, their individual percentage is reduced.
 - Students feel AFAs are overwhelming.
 - Ms. Hall. If you feel they are not being scaffolded, we need to have that discussion with our teachers.
 - It is something that should be able to be achieved and attached to the content.
 - Sometimes the resources don't help answer the AFA.
 - The disparity between Summit and Canvas grades is difficult for kids.
 - Students feel that the AFA is not worth it because it is such a struggle.
 - There shouldn't be a requirement so far beyond what they have learned to earn an "A" in the class.
 - The timing of the content impacts if students are ready for the AFA or know the information for the AFA, so it isn't always lined up in the year view when it is being taught.
 - Grades will be changed at the end of the year to their final grade being the grade they will receive for all year.
 - Mr. Strain: The focus for parents should be on their student's "on track" status. We will continue to work on competencies throughout the year, and we have asked our teachers to be strict to the rubric. The students will

continue to get better at the skill over the year. Students will see that they will get better over the year and students begin focusing on learning rather than grades.

- Question: Do the student get help in mentoring?
 - The focus of mentoring is for check-ins. They start mentoring by setting goals, and then the teacher calls up a student for a check in to see how things have been going the past two weeks. These should be happening every two weeks.
 - One member commented that her 7th grade had a hard time last year and is on track this year so learning does occur and more time in the system can help.
- Mr. Strain: It is a mind shift for parents and students, particularly those students who have always had an “A”. Students will continue to grow in their learning and improve over the year. Their learning and their purposeful learning will continue, and they will improve. For students who aren’t driven, we need to give them additional support. If you are frustrated at home, send admin an email and we will set an appointment to help you get through it.
 - Comments:
 - The Summit system will help them better prepare for the ACT.
 - It will also help students with a growth mindset.
 - Some colleges aren’t using the ACT anymore and others are allowing a wider gap in GPAs.

c. Positive Behavior Plan (Tristin Jensen)

- Students feel they are not being recognized enough or praised enough.
- It would be good to find the kids that are quiet and praise them.
- Catch more students doing good things.
- Question: What percentage of teachers are handing them out?
 - Teachers can hand them out any time they see something doing well.
 - Students get candy for bringing the elbow bump to the office.
 - On Friday, there is a drawing for a full-size candy bar.
- One good thing was Mr. Strain calling each parent. That goes a long way in the community.
- Students have noticed that admin are present and accessible.
- Questions: Could all the on-track kids get a reward in their mentoring?
- Mr. Strain: We are about to start our “build a snowman” motivation when mentoring classes compete to have AFAs and PFAs. Classes will get rewards. Last year we did this competition and there were more PFAs and AFAs passed when we did this competition.

d. Digital Citizenship discussion (James Hansen)

5. Budget Review

TJ Strain

- a. At the end of the year, if we don’t spend all the allocated money, it will be remaining and used in other areas.

- b. Paper reader funds:
- c. Question: For the capitol expenditures, what is the timetable for getting those done?
 - There is a chance we may not need any of them. We replace them when they die.

6. Action Items

- a. Robotics Club Added to Goal:
 - Ms. Pandoff requesting \$2000 for buying bots for the club.
 - We talked about it last month but did not vote on it.
 - Chair: Is there any discussion on this? Questions about this?
 - Stephanie moves to vote to approve the funding:
 - Katie B seconded
 - Vote to vote: unanimous
 - Mr. Strain moved to vote on the robotics expenditure
 - Brook seconded
 - To reallocate to move \$2000 from remaining budget to robotics
 - Unanimous vote
- b. Paper Reader Funds: We are finding out how to use the reader more effectively, but she is helping.

Next meeting will be held in the library in January 19th @ 4:00 PM

Teacher Student Success Planning Day – March 16th from 9:00 – 1:00 PM in the library.

2022 Community Council Membership – Those absent are highlighted.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Term</u>
Burst, Nick	Parent	Bluff Ridge	nick.burst@gmail.com	1
Stapleton, Stephanie	Parent	Bluff Ridge	stephaniejstapleton@gmail.com	1
Nance, Krista	Parent	Bluff Ridge	kristanance@msn.com	2
Scholer, Katie	Parent	Bluff Ridge	katiescholer@gmail.com	2
Hansen, James	Parent	Cook	jameschansen@gmail.com	2
Jensen, Tristin	Parent	At Large	jensenedu7@gmail.com	1
Bowden, Katie	Parent	Sand Springs	coreykatie1@gmail.com	1
Smith, Melanie	Parent	Sand Springs	egbok1996@gmail.com	1
Robbins, Julie	Parent	Sand Springs	robbinshomes@gmail.com	2
Stone, Brooke	Parent	Sand Springs	brookemstone@gmail.com	2
Bott, Lacey	Counselor	Legacy Jr	labott@dsdmail.net	1
Brinkerhoff, Loren	Teacher	Legacy Jr	lbrinkerhoff@dsdmail.net	2
Juarez, Debra	Teacher	Legacy Jr	djuarez@dsdmail.net	1
Anderson, Ashlynn	Teacher	Legacy Jr	ashanderson@dsdmail.net	2
Larsen, Becky	Office	Legacy Jr	blarsen@dsdmail.net	2
Strain, TJ	Principal	Legacy Jr	tstrain@dsdmail.net	

Non - Voting Members

Talbot, Mindy	PTSA Assistant
Hoyt, Holly	Principal Assistant
Hall, Terri	Principal PTSA - Student Representative Hope Squad - Student Representative Student Body Officer Representative