

School Community Council Meeting Minutes 2/13/2024

Attendees: JaNeal Rodriguez, Sarah Olson, Jared Lisonbee, Cari Fifield, Liz Buirley, Carla O'Connell-Were, Carla O'Connell-Were, Cindy Remke, Courtney Schriever, Tarynn, Jenny Kearl, Robert Horsley, Kristi Swett

SCC (School Community Council) Business:

- approved minutes from January 8
- March meeting will be allocating use of Lands Trust fund. Historically, has been to fund the Husky Den, but also think of other projects you might propose.
- Information on Crosswalk on 21st and Wyoming is in the works. Pushing Department of Transportation for solution.
- Questions about fights at school. We do Social Emotional Learning lessons daily school wide in 2nd periods. The fights that have happened are from students who come from a philosophy of fight to defend themselves, so fighting a culture where fighting is acceptable.
- Dignity Index training was discussed as part of plan to deal with this larger societal issue.
- Follow-up on lockers request: Lockers are being provided in a modified manner. Banks of lockers will be available for student use for the day. They can store their coats, winter boots, lunch, etc. They are cleared out each afternoon.
- Question about CTE tour, high schools cancelled it this year. Innovations and Highland are the ones who do the work for it. Highland had an open house night in December. One can talk to the Highland High school persons in charge. It was noted that people can get personal tours of Highland from the Freshman Success paraprofessionals. Ram Camp Day was mentioned as a great way to get to know the school before school starts.

School Counselor Report – Cari Fifield

- We are in the middle of registration. 6th grade has an instructional video available currently.
- Our counselors have been to several of the elementary schools and getting good returns of registration.
- End of January was the sixth grade Open House night.

Principal Report – Principal Rodriguez and Assistant Principal Olson

- Lands Trust goal was decreasing Ds to Fs from 1st to last quarter. Many things we can't control with such a goal. We are working to create a goal for next year that is reflective of our current outreach and tutoring of students.
- Attendance is currently another goal we are working on but have not made much headway on.
- Next month will be proposing another goal more specific and more representative of what we can control and contribute to. Husky Den staff is funded by Land Trust. We are now having Husky Den paraprofessionals push into classrooms for preventative help, rather than pulling students out of classes. In addition, we now have Husky Den tutoring after school with a licensed teacher Monday through Thursday for an hour after school.

- There is an activity bus at 4:30 for rides home for students who use the tutoring services.
- FTE report: Full time educators are based on enrollment. SIC meets today to allocate department and staffing needs.
- We are projected to be down 50-60 kids from current enrollment. They decreased our FTE by 1 last year, but we waited to see specific needs going from 20.5 to 19. Some classes will be bigger next year as some were very smaller this year.
- After we get the 19 allocated, we will start looking at our needs and using budgets to supplement.
- Elementary school closure assignments are being worked on, there is a priority for those on site to apply.
- Work will be done to stabilize our number of faculty.

PTA (Parent Teacher Association) Update:

- Val-O-Grams this week. This is a big fundraiser for PTA survival. PTA ensures all kids get Val-O-Grams.
- “Jared Edwards is phenomenal, puts so much time and energy into these things.” Shout out from PTA to note all of Jared’s hard work.
- Kindness Week is this week. Acts of Kindness Acknowledgements Wall, Karaoke, Wear Red for “You are Loved” day, photo shoots, soda bar and more. Lots of volunteers are helping with this.
- March 25 -March 29 is Sprit Week.

School Board Report: Kristi Swett, School Board Member

- Transition for school closures has been the focus. Not a lot of impact with our precinct and Hillside, but some parents are interested in attending Beacon or Dillworth.
- Keep watch on legislation coming through. Some new safety measures may have to come into place, there is a pretty comprehensive bill in April/May. JaNeal will have a better measure of what that looks like in near future.
- There are a few tax bills such as the City Re-Development (RDA). This bill has us look at a development to work with School district which will freeze our taxes. HTRz has to do with transportation. School district must participate. As taxpayers, school district can usually choose to participate but we are forced to be part of the re-development.
- JaNeal should be getting staffing numbers for next year. Everything looks good for Hillside.
- Parley’s Way is getting more and more dangerous. Trying to get more protections at 23rd East and Parley’s way. This issue will brought up at Board meeting as a hazardous route. Two-mile radius. Courtesy route or stricter route is suggested.
- Re-Routing bus routes