

West Hills Middle
School Community Council
January 3, 2018

ATTENDING: Stacy Evans, Jenni Shelton, Aaron Wilhelm, Justin Butterfield, Lynda Christensen, Tina Lyon, Chandra Walker, Ellen Hensel, Mike Hughes, Cynthia Vandermeiden, Jodie Butterfield

WELCOME – Jenni Shelton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Ellen Hensel motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Jenni Shelton seconded. Voting was unanimous.

MAKING GRADES MORE MEANINGFUL – Stacy Evans

- Introduced Standard Based Grading
- Some current practices that don't work well
 - A. The Zero – averaging in zeros can heavily impact a grade; can contribute to feelings of hopelessness. Grades are based on a score of 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4. Zeros don't have as much as in impact on the grade
 - B. Alternatives to Zero
 - Use Median and Mode
 - Assign a range-equivalent score (50 = 0)
 - New Grading scale with equal distribution (0-4)
 - ZAP (Zeroes Aren't Permitted) programs
 - Trend Scoring
 - C. Averaging - assumes that learning does not occur from the beginning of the quarter to the end of the quarter. Power Law Formula described by Robert Marzano.
 - D. The Semester Killer – One assignment may end up killing a students' grade.

LAND TRUST PROGRESS & REVISIONS – Stacy Evans

- Progress Report – currently we have spent 30,000 of 106,749. Pays for sub coverage for teachers to meet as a team, subs for conferences, subs for new teachers, after school tutoring, pays for 3 periods of teacher coaching
- Proposed Revisions – Technology is now considered a supply piece. Shift money from land trusts for computers to supply budget. Money will go toward an assistant, additional period of coaching and additional substitutes.
- Fund raising – Community Council can sponsor a fundraiser, but it needs to be based on a school need
- Chandra Walker motioned to accept the proposed changes to the Land Trust as proposed for the 2017-18 year. Justin Butterfield seconded. Voting was unanimous in favor of accepting the proposed changes.

STUDENT NEIGHBORHOOD ACCESS PROGRAM (SNAP) – Mike Hughes

- A handout was shared that included safe walking routes, issues and concerns for West Jordan, drop off zones for parents at WHMS.
- Stacy Evans has a traffic engineer specialist from the state to observe and make recommendations regarding the flow of traffic dropping off and picking up students.
- Justin Butterfield motioned to approve the SNAP plan. Jenni Shelton seconded. Voting was unanimous.

SAFE TECHNOLOGY UTILIZATION AND DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

- Digital Citizenship – signed form by students, parent and staff for internet safety. Netsmartz does a safety assembly at the beginning of the year.
- Online Student Safety – district has a filtering system to help prevent students from unsafe sites
- Cell phone policy – students cannot have cell phones out during class. They can have them out during lunch and passing time.

COUNSELING CENTER

- 8th grade Plan for College and Career Readiness started in November and counselors are wrapping up meeting with parents and students. Feedback from parents were good, the especially liked the College and Career Readiness book given to 8th graders.
- Beginning of December the counselors presented Suicide Prevention lessons. The state suicide specialist also presented at a parent night.
- As part of our service learning, the students at West Hills made 472 hats with a holiday card that were donated to the Road Home Shelter in December. There is a write up on the Jordan District website.

INFORMATION ITEM

- Tardies have decreased significantly from the past 3 years.

ADJOURNMENT

- Ellen Hensel motioned to adjourn and Chandra Walker seconded. Voting was unanimous.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- March 7th @ 4:30 p.m.
- May 2nd @ 4:30 p.m.