

Community Council Minutes 10/26/17

Attendance:

Parents: Anna Mae Jorgenson, Beckie Basso, Jill Hunt, Brooke Neumann

Staff: Cynthia Cruz, Kim Heki, Jamie Farnsworth, Shelly Reynolds, Scott Hicks, Maria Barranco

Absent: Glen Andersen

Approval of Minutes: none

Reports:

1. Review of 2016-2017 Final Report
 - a. The council reviewed the Trust Lands plan that was adopted in the Spring 2017. Although we don't have final numbers yet, everything looks good. We discussed other needs within the school in the event we do have additional funding. We will talk more about this at our November meeting once we have updated information.
 - b. Shelly Reynolds is going to submit a proposal to the council on needs for the science department to be considered as we discuss the budget and any new additional funding.
 - c. Rules on what can and cannot be funded with Trust Land monies can be found here: <http://www.schoollandtrust.org/program/appropriate-expenditures/>
2. Election of council officers for 2017-2018
 - a. Beckie Basso was nominated and it was seconded followed by unanimous approval to be the Community Council Chair for 2017-2018.
 - b. **The council has not yet decided or voted on a Vice-chair position yet.**
 - c. Jill Hunt will serve as the council secretary.
 - d. The council appointed additional parents to serve; Jillian Udy and Kristina Villarruel to maintain our 2:1 parent-to-staff required ratio for voting members of the council. Gabby Webb will be contacted to see if she would be willing.
 - e. The council also discussed ways to appeal to our hispanic parents to become more involved in Community Council. It was agreed that we need to do more education and promotion of what the council's purpose and function are as well as the time commitment (very light) to be involved. This brought up a discussion on having one of the clubs work on a video to have on our Web site and to play during Back to School Nights letting parents know how to become involved (Community Council, IMOM, PTA, etc), how to drop off children, choir, our clubs, etc. We discussed how the video club students could be the actors in the video explaining each of these areas, sharing the culture and events of Dixie Sun (like

a Kid President-type of video). This video can be used to highlight all the programs that we offer here to help promote Dixie Sun in the community.

3. Safety Patrol needs: Shelly Reynolds shared that she is looking to find a business who would be willing to donate hats and embroider the Safety Patrol logo on them to give to each of the patrollers to wear as part of their uniform. The need is for about 25-30 hats. Jill Hunt will look at contacting a few people in town to see if we can find a donor for the hats.

4. Update on the new school schedule: Everyone has transitioned to the new schedule and the children seem to be responding well to the clubs and interventions. Some parents expressed frustration along with some kids who wanted to do the “fun” clubs, instead of going to interventions. Looking to rephrase this as “Reading Club” or “Math Club” - to take away the association of interventions. We will discuss more about the results of how these interventions have helped after the first part of school.

- a. Clubs offered include: music, chess club, volleyball, friendship, library/storytelling, art, readers theater/drama, computers, drum club, etc.
- b. Other areas of academic improvement that are being implemented including ramping up the phonics instruction in the younger grades.
 - i. Can we get a report on testing or GVCs-to-date from last year to this year where there’s been an added emphasis on phonics? Feedback from the teachers who’ve implemented it and what they see students achieving/not achieving with this emphasis would be great at the next meeting.
 - ii. We are also starting to be able to test in Spanish with the Dibels this year. That will be something to learn more about in our next meeting.
 - iii. The council also discussed how we want to get more father volunteers in the school -- more dad’s to volunteer, grandparents to volunteer, etc. What can we do to make this happen?

5. Enrollment: student enrollment is down 58 students from 2015-2016 school year to the present school year. This can be for a number of reasons, move ins/outs, other dual immersion school options opening up in nearby schools (2 others within our cone site) and the loss of busing to Dixie Sun from out-of-boundary students.

- a. 3rd, 4th and 5th grades are now functioning with only 3 teachers. We need to have about 30 students in order to obtain a new teacher. This had a little bit of discussion about the dynamics of just three teachers vs having two sets of teachers per grade. This discussion will/may continue into our November meeting.

Unfinished Business:

1. Communication to Parents: This discussion was just introduced and tabled until November meeting. Jill Hunt asked why we don’t currently use PowerSchool at Dixie Sun and if that tool can begin to be utilized to better keep parents up-to-date on grades, scores, etc. for their children.
 - a. Also what is good communication vs bad communication

- b. Web site: updated and promote this as a communication tool for parents

New Business: n/a

Next Meeting: November 30th @ 3 pm

Other Community Council meeting dates for 2017-2018 school year

**All meetings will be held at 3 pm at Dixie Sun Elementary unless otherwise notified.*

Nov. 30th

Feb. 1st

March 22nd: Trust Lands Plan and Budget

May: Elections, final meeting of the school year

Motion to dismiss: Jill Hunt