

Dixie High Community Council

Minutes

February 10, 2015

Members Present: Jason Brooks, Jennifer Hall, Jim Bown, Steve Quinn, Mary Cruz, Cary MacArthur, Shauna Challis, Sheri Feller, Esther Pugmire, Sharla Campbell

Items Discussed:

Mr. Brooks and Mrs. Campbell reviewed some of the results from the parent and student surveys conducted as part of our accreditation process. Overall, the perception of parents regarding Dixie High was very positive. The highest area of concern for parents was in receiving regular and timely contact from teachers about their child's progress. Mr. Quinn mentioned that he had always received prompt response from teachers at our school. Mrs. Cruz believes that Hispanic parents have more difficulty communicating with the school, and, in response to our discussion, she recommended that we place a note on our school website inviting parents who wish to communicate in Spanish to contact her, as a Community Council member, or Jason Brooks, who also speaks Spanish. Council members also recommended that Powerschool updates be conducted biweekly rather than waiting until midterm. There was some opinion among Council members that teachers are not posting all grades in a timely manner, which leaves parents without the information they need to assist their children to stay more current with their work. It was further recommended that administration email parents with instructions for how to use Powerschool effectively.

Council members voiced support for the inclusion of a Home Room as an opportunity to create a system where all kids have an adult advocate. The primary function of the Home Room would be to check on academic progress of students and to help students focus on doing the right work at school. It was also suggested that our Ambassador program might be more effectively used to mentor individual students. Administration will consider these suggestions and develop a plan.

Council members were informed that the ACT will be administered here at Dixie High on March 3 for all 11th graders. Council members voiced support for classroom activities that help students to do well on the ACT. The availability of Shmoop on our school website provides an opportunity to students to take practice tests online, and is free to all students.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on March 17, 2015 at 4 p.m.