

Dixie High School Community Council

Minutes

September 7, 2016

Members Present: Courtney Snow, Kari Atkin, Rick Peirce, Mike Smith, John Williams, Jennifer Hall, Greg Brooks, Tina Tew, Jason Brooks, Sharla Campbell.

Items Discussed:

Member introductions were completed. Four new parent members have joined the Council this year (Snow, Atkin, Tew, and G Brooks), and one new faculty member (Peirce). All were welcomed to the council.

Jason Brooks asked for members to consider the issue of electing a Chair. Kari Atkin volunteered to serve as chair, and the Council voted unanimous approval.

Jason Brooks proposed that the Council establish a schedule of meetings, and recommended that the Council consider meeting four times during the school year. The Council serves the important function of overseeing the budgeting of State Trust Land funds, and also serves as an advisory group to the school regarding general issues of school improvement. It was felt that four meetings per year would allow the Council to be effective in these responsibilities. The recommended dates for Council meetings were: Nov 8, Jan 10, and Mar 7. Greg Brooks made a motion to accept the proposed schedule for the year; Courtney Snow seconded the motion, and the Council unanimously approved.

The Council reviewed the budget for State Trust Land funds that was approved last year and considered a change that was proposed. Originally, the plan had included an expenditure for math textbooks; however, as the year progressed, it became known that the State Office of Education is considering adjustments to the Core Standards for Sec Math 2 and Sec Math 3. It is intended that their book selection match the content of our math courses as closely as possible, and toward that end, the department would prefer to delay purchasing. It was proposed that the budget be altered to allow the school to purchase two Chromecarts in lieu of the textbooks. This added technology will assist teachers in providing student access to digital tools they can use in the classroom. Tina Tew moved to approve the budget, with the proposed change. Greg Brooks seconded the motion, and the Council voted unanimous approval.

Mike Smith initiated a discussion about the concurrent enrollment and AP math options for Dixie High students. Many students this year have enrolled for Math 1050, which reduced the number of students requesting AP Calculus. AP Statistics is still available to students here, but not AP Calc. Mike voiced support for offering a Math 1060 class at Dixie High, in light of the diminishing enrollment in AP Calculus. Mrs. Campbell will pursue the question to see if this option exists.

The Council discussed the ACT Prep course options at Dixie High. Mrs. Campbell explained that students were allowed to enroll in ACT Prep as a course offering this year. Mrs. Hansen and Mrs. Mendenhall share responsibilities for teaching this semester course. In addition, because 11th graders will take the ACT test, but not the SAGE this year, ACT review questions will be included in regular classrooms throughout the year in an effort to assist all students to earn the best possible score. Mrs. Campbell did emphasize that the best preparation for the ACT is for students to enroll in challenging courses throughout high school, but the school does recognize that review of previously-learned concepts and familiarity with testing format can be helpful. Courtney Snow voiced support of continuing our efforts to strengthen ACT scores.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, at 4 p.m. in the counseling conference room at Dixie High.