

Maple Grove Middle School School Community Council Meeting - Agenda

February 18, 2025 @ 3:15 PM, conference room

At least seven members must be present in order to conduct a vote. Members in attendance - will be highlighted.

Nate Whitney - Principal

Julie Beveridge - SCC Facilitator

David Smith - Parent

Tanner Mortimer - Parent

Patrick Bennett - Parent

Kurt Krieger-James - Vice Chairperson

Gary Bernard - Teacher

Nathan Mohler - Parent

Sarah Barrio - Parent

Mindy Johnson - Chairperson

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1. Welcome:
 2. Approve minutes from January
 - a. Printed draft of minutes available for review
 - b. Motion to approve: **KJ**
 - c. Second: **Mindy**
 - d. Vote: **Approved**
 3. This month's business:
 - a. Welcome School Board Member Shauna Warnick:
 - i. **The council finds the superintendent community council meeting very beneficial**
 - ii. **Reach out to Shauna or Kristen if there are any concerns**
 1. **Rumors of boundary changes for high schools**
 - a. **No plans for High school boundary changes for now, but boundary changes are in the works for elementary.**
 - b. **MMHS will have an addition to address growth**
 2. **Questions about the cell phone bill in Congress**
 - a. **Bill has not made it through the senate**
 - i. **If passes the bill states that cell phones would not be allowed during instructional time, the district could do more but not less. Up to the district to determine how they would support teachers**
 - b. School Goals: Last year's goal was to focus on student academic progress. Students will increase performance on end-of-level assessments by at least 1% in - Language Arts, Math and Science.
 - i. **Academic Summary for 23-24 school year plan -**
 1. **Overall comparison between 23-24 shows progress in achievement data with the most considerable growth among ML students.**
 - a. **ELA - 5.1%**
 - b. **Math - 1.1%**
 - c. **Science - 1.6%**

2. There was a decrease in ML student growth
 3. There was a decrease in academic growth primarily in ELA and Science
 - a. Discussion on improving testing literacy. Understanding “how to test” utilizes test-taking strategies, the format, etc.
 - b. The decline in ELA requires addressing the achievement gap.
- c. Discussion and goal proposal for next school year 2025-2026:
- i. The budget is higher this year
 - ii. In previous years paid for funding of 2 FTE(cost has gone up for teachers with COLA increases)
 1. Funds do not have to be used for a veteran teacher even if a veteran teacher is teaching the ELA. Easier to use funding to cover the least expensive teacher.
 - a. This allows for lower class sizes as well as additional support in classes.
 - b. Some of FTE is used for the Tier II intervention teachers
 - i. Lower that class size to no more than 20 students per class.
 - ii. Tier III students have shown significant growth.
 1. District Funds FTE
 2. The first round of licenses(Read 180) are funded by the district but will need to be covered by the school in the upcoming year.
 - a. Shauna shared that budgets are tight this year but trying really hard to find funding to continue the Intervention reading teacher.
 - i. Understanding this is the last chance to “catch students up”.
 - ii. The program is very intensive and seeing great gains for our most at risk students.
 - b. Discussion on if Districts typically fund a program and then no longer fund it.
 - i. These funds were originally funded through ESSER funds(covid funding).
 - ii. Budgets are tight right now, the school board is feeling a lot of pressure to stretch budgets and be creative in funding. The state legislature is trying to limit the number of taxes in state.
 - iii. Fees are also going away - not charging curricular fees will result in a 2.5 million dollar deficit that will need to be absorbed by the district.
 3. Two Technicians covered through Trustlands to lower the student-to-teacher ratio in Inclusion class.
 - a. MGMS SPED students perform a little lower than SPED students in other districts.
 - b. Have 5 technicians 3 are paid through TSSA funds, proposed the other 2 be paid through trustlands.
 - i. Discussion on why not using all TSSA funds

for all technicians. As technicians move up through the steps the cost becomes more expensive. Balancing out both accounts helps to maintain budgets. TSSA is also used for other priorities. TSSA is more discretionary and Trustlands has to be used on specific priorities.

- c. Student Success Trackers -
 - i. Trackers call students into the success center for more individualized tutoring.
 - d. Professional Development - All ELA teachers were able to attend the Utah ELA conference
 - e. Technology - Time to rotate out Chromebooks. Considering only rotating out at .33 rate. Feel like Chromebooks are not viable after 8 years.
 - i. Going to have to scrape up funds from all accounts(textbook, technology, etc) To rotate out will cost about \$115,000. One classroom set costs about \$10,000.
 - ii. If need to can also use the money on software(Read 180, 95%, etc)
 - f. Unsure if the proposed 192,000 includes the additional 1%, if not included could help cover the cost of Chromebooks.
4. Discussion on speaking with Kristee Christensen about what the greatest need is for ML students.
- a. Could look at hiring additional EL tech or increasing Kristee's hours.
 - i. WIDA testing is done during a testing window. Most are done.
 - b. Council will check with Kristee on where her needs.
 - c. Consider nominating Kristee for the classified employee of the year or PEAK award.

d. [Proposed 2025-2026 TSSA and Trust Lands Plan:](#)

4. School Needs and Concerns

5. Member concerns:

- a. Discussion on Cell phone bill - How do teachers feel about the bill
 - i. Teachers feel that having the policy be district-wide instead of class-by-class.
 - ii. Considering how to help students learn how to appropriately use phones.
 - iii. The evolution of technology has created additional issues through the years.
 - iv. Helping educate parents on not having access to phones, things that are happening in classrooms, etc.

6. Action items for next meeting :

- a. Determine if we would rather use Trustlands funds to cover additional Tech or EL needs.
- b. Nate will amend the Trustlands plan to include some ML needs. Julie will email the new plan out.
- c. Any additional considerations from the council will be emailed.

Meeting adjourned: **Adjourned**

NEXT MEETING: March 18, 2025 - 3:15 pm - Conference Room -