

Oquirrh Hills Middle School
School Community Council Minutes

January 18, 2022

OHMS Media Center 5:30

Donna Hunter, James Maughan, Andrea Lefgren, Angela Greer, Nicole Campbell, Kierstin Glenn, Andrea Latz, Vanessa Burton, Rebekah Gallew, Melissa Stewart, G Perry, Michelle Perry, Pinyi Yao, Hilary Stewart, Shelli Smith, Courtney Smith, Krystal DeJesus

1. Welcome
2. Approval of minutes from our last meeting (minutes were sent out previously).
Motion to approve: Rebekah Gallew, 2nd: Donna Hunter, Approval was unanimous.
3. Oquirrh Fest Report, musical, robotics– other events coming up:
 - a. \$23,281.73 was raised by Oquirrh Fest
 - b. Robotics: Family fun night, presented robots to community and allow kids to drive robotics, and it was a success. There is a scrimmage on Jan 28th , and Jan 25th and Mar 4th. State will be Mar 11th and we hope to qualify. We did receive a grant for \$2400. (Not part of TrustLands)
 - c. Science Olympiad: Will be competing. We have a very strong team. Will be competing Feb 11th. (Not part of TrustLands)
 - d. Camp Rock: In full swing with rehearsals. Looking into doing some tech stuff. Always have tremendous parent support. The district is paying for a portable projector that lights from the back so it will change for setting purposes.
4. Funding Update: TrustLands spending so far: Started out with \$182,754.49, Largest expenses are summer collaboration, stipends for TA, and chromebooks. Balance left is \$51,413.47. All of our future expenses are minimal. We have been asked to spend what we have. We can also use TSSA funds, which still has over \$200,000. This year we have to better plan for replacing Chromebooks.
5. How did the second quarter go?
 - a. Lunch School: Lunch school visits: 1032 visits from the beginning of the

year through 1/13/23. Math is what most of the visits are for.

- b. Study Skills and DLI Study Skills:
 - i. 7th grade study skills does have a lot of As. The majority of the grades are As, this is over all grades.
 - ii. 8th grade study skills: Still seeing the second quarter slide, but getting help.
 - c. Supplemental Math: We are having more lower grades, it's something that happens every 2nd quarter due to all of the breaks.
 - d. 9th grade reading class: Everyone is on track for graduation. They are in this class because they did poorly in language arts in 8th grade.
 - e. Wellness Room: as of 1/13/23 there have been 260 visits. Most kids are leaving at a better level than they came in on.
6. What about next year's priorities? Where can we do the most good?
- a. Keep
 - i. Supplemental Math: this is helping kids succeed.
 - ii. 9th grade reading:
 - iii. Wellness Room: this is a benefit because it is taking agitated kids and allowing class to continue, and also keeping students from calling home and going home, it is keeping them at school instead
 - iv. Academic Advisors/Credit recovery: They are helping keeping kids on task, running lunch school-tutoring, watch over the kids that are dual enrolled here and at the high school. They are the Friday morning tutors, help with credit recovery (the teacher is looking to see what the kids need to do just to pass, and academic advisors will pull kids in during eagle hour and help those kids do what they need to at least pass), helping in supplemental math and 9th grade reading.
 - v. Summer School: more classes to help kids succeed in ap class and honors class, will also pull kids in for credit recovery
 - vi. DLI study skills: This started today. It will help our DLI kids prep for the AP test.

b. Change:

- i. Renewed emphasis on literacy: only half of our kids are testing as reading on grade level. Will focus on this. Will be training teachers on literacy for each core subject: language arts, math, history, and science.
- ii. Class size reduction for reading classes. If a kid can't read, they will act out.
- iii. In-school-support aide: in addition to our academic advisors. (like in school suspension). A place for students to go when they need to not be in class. It's a place for them to go and still be accountable. It's a better option than suspending students and keeps kids in school. One way to look at it is that they are losing a privilege, i.e. attending class, eating lunch in the cafeteria. Instead, they could be put in a room to finish homework or missing assignments, provide custodial service. The goal would be to have an in-school-support aide have about 4 kids to be able to keep an eye on them, so that they are not unsupervised. Teachers have also asked for this. This person would be responsible for making sure they are getting their homework done, helping them understand what they need to do, have them help clean-up after lunch, etc. The goal is that this will help raise test scores, which will help the student succeed. There will be training for that aide. This would be a part-time position-17-25 hours. Kids are usually in for one day. If behavior is worse than that kids will be sent home. Kids will be in an isolated area; it doesn't usually last a whole day.

c. Suggestions for next year:

- i. ELL: More support for our ELL students to help them succeed. We do have extra funding for ELL, but it is small, because typically we have had the smallest number of ELL. We have 50 ELL students now. Legally we cannot put all the ELL students in one class, we have to keep them in the mainstream. We do have quite a few ELL

endorsed teachers.

- ii. Efficiency sign-up for Eagle Hour: Student can sign up for Eagle Hour, teachers can request student to come to eagle hour. This year it was paid out of another budget, but would like it to be paid from TrustLands.
- iii. Teach teachers how to use lunch school, specifically to request students to attend.
- iv. Additional electives, make part-time teacher full time.

d. Questions:

- i. Does Eagle hour or lunch school ever become mandatory? Yes, but frequently students do not know what they are there for or are distracted. Eagle Hour is not being utilized, because students would rather be with friends. Teachers will request students, but they do not always come.
- ii. Lunch School: Math: Why is it so hard? A lot of the time used there is for retaking quizzes. Math is like a second language. Also, compared to core subjects there are so many concepts that students are learning. Lunch school helps make it possible, so kids are not having to stay after school or using class time to make up assignments and quizzes.
- iii. TSSA funds, why is it so high? During covid we couldn't hire, last year it was difficult as well. It's limited on what we can spend it on, however, we were able to hire a hall monitor. The funds have been building up because we couldn't hire.
- iv. Cell Tower Funds: Cell company pays the district to keep a cell tower on the property. One thing it has paid for is to increase hours for one of the office secretaries to

- 7. Testing buy-in – how do we motivate students and parents to help students do well on RISE and ASPIRE tests? Vanessa put together a letter to send to parents.. Will send out as a skyward, with the school community council signatures. Schools are graded based on test scores. This shows how much the

kids grew during the year in core subjects.

- a. Add that the testing shows kids where they are at, and where they are succeeding.
 - b. Remove “One place the score is used is in listings of homes for sale ...” and change it to “many choose a community based on the school grades...”
 - c. Take second paragraph and make it into bullet points.
 - d. Change the word judge to evaluate.
 - e. Include that we do not think that the grade we received was an accurate assessment of our students and community.
 - f. Tests taken are RISE and ASPIRE
 - g. List what our actual grade is.
 - h. Include that if students do well on the RISE they do not have to take the final in the class “All students will have an end of year test, but those who receive a 3 or 4 on the RISE test, can have that score replace their final.”
 - i. Those who opt out, will be given the final exam.
 - j. Emphasize this isn’t just regular testing, but end of year state tests.
 - k. Will take suggestions, Donna Hunter will rewrite it, and then present it again in March. Once it is approved by the council it will be sent to the community.
8. Safety update
- a. Safe Walking Routes
 - b. Fire Drill
 - i. Completed Drills:
 1. Aug evacuation time was 5:04, evac + accounting time was 10:28
 2. Jan-evacuation time was 4:11, evac + accounting time was 7:57
 - ii. Future Drills, etc.
 1. Lockdown-TBD: Police officers come out and be there for the drill. Drug-sniffing dogs will be brought in (we did vote on that

at our first meeting)

2. Great Utah Shakeout-earthquake drill 4/20/23: will be a random time of the day. Possibly do it on a Friday block day because there is additional time in those block classes.
 3. Reunification planning meeting 1/31/23
 4. TECC Kit Search: All emergency kits have been updated. The district has provided TECC kits-one for every classroom. Contains supplies for disaster situation. 3 teachers have reported them missing, will be investigating that the TECC kit is found and then replaced if not found.
9. Questions, concerns and comments from the council members. None
10. Move to adjourn: Motion: Courtney Featherstone 2nd: Shelli Smith; Motion to adjourn carries