



Grand County Middle School School Community Council Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2018

Attendees: Melinda Snow (principal), Marva Lewis (co-chair/school counselor), Natalie Haase (student), Christy Calvin (parent), Jen Patterson (parent), Karisa Larsen (parent), Sheree Maughan (parent), Fiona Raison (parent), Sophia Sopuch (teacher), Gerlit Buffington (teacher)

Action Items

- Approval of Minutes, January 31, 2018

Discussion Items

- **Substitute shortage:** Fiona Raison joined the meeting to discuss the substitute crisis at the middle and high schools. She plans to put a note in the paper asking for volunteers, especially retirees, to step up and give back by substituting in the upper grades.
- **Reality Town:** Marva Lewis asked members to help find 10-15 more volunteers for Reality Town. SCC members agreed to contact additional volunteers.
- **Together We Are Grand/Youth Voices Speak Out:** Marva Lewis gave SCC members posters to publicize this event focusing on the issues of bullying/cyberbullying, internet safety, and substance use, abuse, and prevention. Students will perform followed by a panel question and answer.
- **Teacher Professional Development/Moab Police:** Principal Snow informed members that the police department will educate faculty and staff about new and different drugs that are available in the community. Some of these drugs are so lethal that people can become ill or even die through contact and not just by consuming them. Teachers will be asked to monitor and document students who show signs of substance use at school.
- **Technology and the brain:** Principal Snow discussed the effects of technology use (computers and hand-held screens) on the brain referring to research that shows actual brain damage. Jen Patterson asked for additional information including sources of the research.

2017-2018 Trustlands Budget Review

- **Academic and Behavior Support:** Changes during the year with the ABS program allowed money to be reallocated. The need for ABS was not as great as anticipated. (The ABS room is still staffed during lunch on an as-needed basis for work completion. The funds not spent on

this position will allow the middle school to hire a math tutor to work in math classes for additional support. Melinda is currently recruiting for this position.

- **Art Rotation:** Trustlands money is allocated to hire instructors for theater, creative writing, chorus, and art. Without these classes, time spent in core classes would need to be longer.
- **New ideas**
 - ✓ CFI field camp available for more students who cannot afford the \$50 fee
 - ✓ River trip for all 7th graders, which correlates to the 7th grade curriculum for science and Utah History
 - ✓ Bates Wilson field camp for all 8th graders fits with 8th grade curriculum
 - ✓ After school BEACON could include outside time to promote healthy activity for students after being stuck inside all day; Girls on the Run is a good example
 - ✓ SCC members please come back with ideas by the next meeting so that the committee can vote on the budget. Keep in mind the current staffing.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.