

## Community Council Meeting 2.27.17

**Attending:** Janelle Arbon, Josh Cameron, Alanis Simmons-Cameron, Donna Metzler, Connie Wilson, Kent Dalton, Sup. Crane, John Knowles, Steve Hren, Jeff Richards, Sonja Nicolaisen, Margy Moreau Missing: Jeanette Koppel, Kathy Williams

**Citizens to be heard** – Teachers from the English department presented information regarding their request for additional chrome books. They feel that having a cart in each individual classroom would enhance learning, help to differentiate instruction, allow for more flexibility in unit length and help promote general computer literacy. Heidi asked how many carts are currently in the school. Only the two we purchased this year. There was a discussion about the value of Google Docs versus Microsoft office products.

**Minutes** – Kent asked us to add that he was also absent. Connie motioned to approve the minutes, Margy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Reports** – Superintendent Crane spoke to raise awareness of education bills in the Utah Legislature. He said our local representatives are responsive to the information the district gives them, but many representatives get information on education bills from other lawmakers rather than from the education community. He would like us pass information onto friends and relatives on the Wasatch front specifically anyone with the ear of a law maker. This year, our district is worried about Senate Bill 80 which will tie the WPU rate of districts to property values without taking into account the needs of the populations. If SB 80 passes, it will take money away from Grand County and send it to other counties. Anything members can do to be involved will help. Send Sup Crane or Jim Webster an email to be added to the information email list. Janelle asked for the district to generate form letters that we could put out for future sessions. Heidi asked if information from the district can be made public – yes.

**Budget update** – If everything allocated in our current plan is paid out we will have no carryover. However, we should receive \$20,000 more next year. Janelle asked if any of the positions we are funding could be funded by the district – no. The district is concerned about Senate Bill 80 taking away all funds gained by the levy.

Members discussed each of the line items in this year's plan and decided whether to fund each again next year. It was decided not to refund the music and arts requests from last year since departments did not request again for next year. We discussed continually funding ACT prep in the winter. Because of the timing with junior prom, kids did not come. It was decided to fund \$500 to pay Katlyn a bit more for the summer session and perhaps fund some scholarships. Heidi asked Steve to tell coaches they could not punish kids for attending. With these adjustments, we will have \$26K to spend.

Chromebooks - Janelle asked about the district assigning Chromebooks to individual students. Dr. Hren said schools around the country are debating the results of similar programs with some positives outcomes and some negatives. It seems having classrooms sets have the best outcomes. Kent said not all classes need chrome books; they would be most useful in core and life skills classes. John said he agreed that every kid, even those not going to college, need basic computer skills. Dr. Hren said that Dan is in the process of getting 3 carts and 3 smart boards for the math department through a digital grant. While a cart and 30 chrome books costs 6-7K, Margy said the cart added much of the cost. If the chrome

books do not move, classrooms do not need the cart and a set would be cheaper. She uses dish drainers to store Chromebooks in her classroom. We discussed spending \$10,000 on Chromebook.

We also discussed funding \$5,000 for teacher professional development.

Members should come to the next meeting having prioritized how to spend the remaining \$11,000. Some ideas included raising the pay of the math teacher aid so she could teach a couple classes (She is currently working on her licensure), and adding some academic support for Kaitlyn. Janelle asked if the positions we fund get automatic raises. Only if we add money.

**Accreditation** – On March 15<sup>th</sup> there will be parent panel discussion (12:20 – 1pm) John will go. Heidi thinks she can attend. Connie will attend if Heidi cannot. Dr. Hren summarized the report for us, focusing on the goals that were developed in the process and how the school is moving to meet them. He offered to email the entire report to anyone interested.

**Leadership** - Dr. Hren recently attended a conference on teacher leadership. Currently, the only path for teacher career development moves teachers out of the classroom. How do we develop teacher leaders, allowing them to remain in the classroom, while at the same time helping administrations complete their goals? The state is looking at ways to allow master teachers to develop in-service trainings or take on additional admin roles. Teacher leadership opportunities should come with additional pay or additional prep time so new roles do not add more stress to already overburdened teachers.

Next meeting March 13<sup>th</sup>.

