

Community Council Meeting Minutes 4.8.19

Attending: Kent Dalton, Kathy Williams, Janel Arbon, Heidi Wainer, Steve Hren, Lisa Scott, Eve Maher, Jim Stocks

Minutes: Kent motioned to pass the minutes from 3/11/19 as written. Janel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Legislation changes: Teacher Student Success Act – will provide additional tax payer money for school districts like trust lands money. Funds will be based on student population and should be ongoing. To receive this money, the district and individual schools must create a plan, similar to the trust lands plan, however the council will not vote on it. Kent asked if it would be worth having a dedicated staff person to write and oversee plans – the superintendent will oversee.

HB303 – Clarifies that the community council is expected to give input on digital learning and safety.

Changes to Trust Lands Plan - There was a misunderstanding regarding requested funds we thought the district was going to pay for: \$8,000 for half an English position; \$19,000 for benefits for the Math TA position. Therefore, we need to reallocate \$27,000.

In addition, board members questioned paying for a full time math position, if we pull one of those teachers for a class period to act as instructional coach. The math teachers decided they did not want to risk cuts to their department. Kathy suggested TSSA money could perhaps pay for a full time instructional coaches.

Dr. Hren will ask the board to fund these positions in their budget in June, but in order to guarantee these positions, we need to fund them. If the board pays for these items, the council can reallocate unspent funds in the fall. Janel proposed we send a letter to the school board, explaining our belief that full time salaries should be fully funded by the board, because they are reoccurring and we cannot know how much to allocate. Depending on who is in the position and their benefits, their cost differs.

Because we have \$9,000 unallocated, and we will no longer spend \$15,000 on an instructional coach, to cover the shortfall we need to find \$2,700. Steve proposed we pull these funds from travel budgets or from band. Heidi reminded folks that we debated about funding the Marimba. Eve suggested that the travel money requested was for full trip amounts, teachers had not expected us to cover the entire amount requested. There was a discussion about the new school fees bill and if fundraisers are still allowed. Kent proposed we take the same amount from each of the 4 travel budgets and band. However, since request amounts were vastly different, we decided to take a percentage.

Heidi motioned we reduce the allocations to Debate Travel, English Travel, Science Olympiad Travel, Art travel and Band Instruments by 12%. Eve seconded. Kathy recused herself. The motion passed.

Eve motioned to remove the instructional coaching from the plan and add in \$8,000 for English and \$19,000 to offset benefits for the math TA. We will send a letter to the board on behalf of the council asking that the board fund salaries. Kent seconded. Kathy recused herself. The motion passed.

Janel reiterated having full time staff and smaller classes is more important than extra stuff, but we would like to see salaries paid by the general fund. We discussed that in the future we must always remember to account for benefits along with salaries.

Other business – Kent thanked us for the kind words in his blue ribbon.

Steve thanked us for making these hard decisions. The next meeting will be the 13th of May.