

Minutes
Provo High School Community Council
2009/2010

11 Nov 2009

In attendance: Jean McPherron, Cynthia Gaddis, Marsha Judkins, Russ Ridgeway, Lisa Thomas, Lisa Shepherd, Lynda Roper, Nan Theobald, Lori Rich, Kelly Wing, Lillian Fodermaier, Sam Ray, Mike Rutter, Jared Hearld

Review of last month's meeting was accomplished by Jean reading her notes and others adding details from their own. Details included Russ Ridgeway becoming a new parent member of the council, Marcus Mayntz presenting his report on new teaching techniques in Physics, and Lani Quisenberry presenting details of her successful efforts to integrate new freshman into Gateway and Fresh Success programs.

Plans for funding requests discussed: Funding requests will be solicited beginning in January. Presentations to the council will occur in Feb, Mar, and April.

Mike Rutter told the council about his program Individual Reading Success. Two tutors are funded by Trustland money. Anecdotal evidence is very positive. The program addresses a group of functionally illiterate students who are underserved by other programs. Intensive one-to-one tutoring usually allows the students to reenter mainstream classrooms within a year. Sam asked Mr. Rutter to provide some statistical evidence of progress for each student served by the program when he applies for funding next year.

Stacy Briggs presented evidence of the success of the Algebra Support program which has dramatically improved the pass rate for Algebra I students. Stacy reported that 88% of these students passed Algebra I first term, a higher pass rate than in any previous year. Students participate in a directed study hall concurrently with Algebra I instruction. The teaching team is stable and planning to implement a math fundamentals software program in Term 2.

Some discussion held about acceleration of math students in our feeder schools and how it affects our state test scores. Also how it affects students who end up needing to take a higher level math than they want to in order to get four years of math. IB Math Studies is suggested as an excellent 4th year math for those students.

Cynthia Gaddis presented some information from a Community Council training that was held earlier today by the school district. The training materials are available online at

www.schoollandtrust.org. One of the tasks, to help in developing a school improvement plan, is due to be completed again next year. It is developed and implemented on a six year cycle.

It was also suggested that we as a council receive the agenda, approve and give feedback via email prior to our monthly meetings. (added by Cynthia Gaddis Dec. 7, 2009)

Cynthia suggested that we take turns writing up a monthly letter for the parent newsletter and school paper. The assignments made were as follows:

Dec	Lisa Shepherd
Jan	Cynthia Gaddis
Feb	Kelly Wing
Mar	Jared Hearld
April	Russ Ridgeway

We discussed the advisability of the council determining the "most pressing academic need(s)" of the school and then calling in the chairs of each department to discuss how we can work together to address those needs.

New parent member Lynda Roper asked the council to consider the problem of students not being taught how to study for tests. Discussion ensued regarding this and other topics related to it.

The council determined to discuss the most pressing academic needs of the school at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: 2nd Wednesday (December 9) at 2:30pm.

(Added by Russ Ridgeway) - There were several action items assigned at the last meeting. I know I had one to come up with a way of recording the meetings.

Put an "x" after your name when you have read (and amended or approved) these minutes.

McPherron	x	Judkins	x	Ridgeway	x	Thomas	x
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Shepherd		Roper	x	Ray	x	Gaddis	x
Theobald		Rich	X	Wing		Fodermaier	
Hearld							