

Westlake High School
SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 03, 2010 – 8:00am
Front Conference Room

Attending: Todd Abney, Robin Allred, Cameron Beecher, Natalie Clark, Debbie Clegg, John Festin, Lisa Gibby, Tani Ireland, Scott Mansfield, Caleb Miller, Fred Openshaw, Ryan Tyson, Julie Wallace

Excused: Julie Barnum, Cheri Jensen

John welcomed the group to the December School/Community Council meeting. The minutes were read and approved. Mr. Openshaw added some details on the possible ASD bond. He wanted the council members to know that Alpine School District is getting ready for the bond. They will be sending out a “proposed bond survey” to show if patrons are really interested in having the bond go to election. Currently, they are trying to come up with the dollar amount. This has to be done before they can do anything else. As it stands right now, the bond would include 1 Jr.High/Middle School and 4 elementary schools. There is not a high school in the plans. Patrons can plan on more information coming around January or February. In the last two bonds, ASD has been within 3-5% of what they had projected which is great. They have asked the principals to discuss with their SCC members to see what their needs are at this time. The council agreed that the two needs for Westlake are a lunchroom or a custodial shed.

Class Change Discussion—The overall feeling was positive to have class changes done through email. The one big concern is the turn-around time on how long it would take the student and/or parent to receive a response back from the counselor. Mr. Openshaw reassured them that there would be a 7day turn-around commitment to this issue. This would be the only way that class changes would be conducted. There would not be “walk-in” days offered as well. It was also agreed upon that the request could come from a parent or a student. The counselor would have to verify they are dealing with the parent or student that has rights to be able to make changes concerning that student. The counselor would verify by asking for student name, student ID#, student address, parent phone number or cell number that is associated with the students account and student birth date.

Parent/Teacher Conferences—How can parent/teacher conferences be more effective? We are in a time that is so technology efficient that we are wondering if Parent/Teacher Conferences has become a “has been”. Teachers must work 7.5 hours to make up for the teacher comp days they are already receiving so Mr. Openshaw has asked the council to brainstorm and converse in their communities and come up with some ideas that would be worthy to present to Mr. Jarman, Mr. Openshaw’s supervisor. A couple of ideas that Mr. Openshaw thought of is to run office hours 2 – 3 times through each term for 1 – 1.5 hours each time. Parents would email their students teachers that they would like to meet with and set up a time to meet on one of

those days. The council seemed to like the idea but would still like to see a Parent/Teacher Conference at the beginning of the school year. The remaining time would be the office hour idea. This is an item that Mr. Openshaw would like to brainstorm with the council over the next two (2) meetings. The schedule is set for this school year however; the remaining Parent/Teacher Conferences will be in the teachers' classrooms. The council liked this idea as well.

SCC Elections—Mr. Openshaw proposed to finish out this year with the council members that we have and then in the spring elections will be held for Eagle Valley, Saratoga Shores and Harvest Hills. The council supported this proposal.

Twitter—Twitter has been blocked throughout Alpine School District. John Festin will be our 'tweeter'. He will get with Jen Miller, who was sending the tweets, to get this up and going. This hopefully will be a good, reliable communication tool for parents and students.

Other—For the next two years, Westlake will continue to be in Region VII. Region VII will consist of Harriman, Hillcrest, Skyline, Olympus, Murray and Westlake. Also, February 7th is a minimal day where a parent committee will be needed. If anyone is available, please let Mr. Openshaw know.

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

**February 7th—Can anyone attend?
Parent/Teacher Conference Discussion**

NEXT MEETING:

**January 28, 2010
8:00am
Front Conference Room**