

Westlake High School
SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 2, 2014 - 5:00pm
WHS Front Conference Room

Attending: Lynne Benham, Natalie Clark, DJ Conger, Nicolette Fike, Caleb Miller, Fred Openshaw, Kerrienne Sabey, Trevor Schramm, Aprill Triggs, Ryan Tyson, Angela Webb

Absent: Audrey Barton, John Festin, Ruth Gowans

Ryan Tyson welcomed the group to the October meeting. The minutes from the September meeting were read and approved.

What's Right About Alpine:

Mr. Openshaw handed out "What's Right About Alpine" pass along cards. He gave one to each of the council members and an extra to pass along to someone else. He is confident in the direction Alpine School District is going and how they are dealing with the overwhelming growth.

SAGE Data:

- We want parents to be prepared for the SAGE scores.
- They will be lower than what we are used to however, that does not mean our learning dropped.
- This is just a new tool we are using.

Graduation Data:

- Each year we have seen a significant increase in our graduation rate.
- 2010-78%
- 2011-79.2%
- 2012-82.4%
- 2013-88.5%
- 2014-89.3%

This is the preliminary data. Trustlands has played a huge role in all of this. It has helped fund our Eastshore center, which has increased packets that are getting accomplished, which then in turn is improving our graduation rate.

Sophomore Day:

- Some ideas for a sophomore day in the fall are:
 - Have an abbreviated schedule
 - Split into groups for guided tours with clubs/student council
 - Hold a back to school night before school
 - Set a 2 hour block for tours every 2 hours
 - Publicize better that the school is open all summer
 - Have a "sophomore boot camp" that moves directly into fee payment night
- Things we know that are working well but want to tweak:
 - Keep the assembly in the spring

- Add the club component at the assembly so students feel they can ask questions to their peers easier than adults.
- Have Student Body Officers and Club Officers available in the hallways during the first week of school so students can ask them questions if needed.

Mr. Openshaw is asking for the council members come back to the next meeting with the top 2-3 ideas that they like the best. This will be something we will continue to work through.

Update on Fall Activities:

- Soccer has had several injuries that have hurt them a little bit this season.
- Football is doing well. They have improved from that last year, so that has been good to see.
- Volleyball is still in the hunt.
- Tennis just finished up.
- Cross Country will be holding an invitational here this weekend.
- Band went to Payson this past weekend and was so close in winning however; color guard did win so we are so happy for them!
- Boy's golf just finished.
- Drama and dance team are going to Shakespeare next weekend.
- Choir will be doing their fall performance next week. That program continues to grow.

This is all around a tough region. We are holding our own and learning through it all.

Items from Council Members:

- Shakespeare showcase is coming. It is worth watching!
- Senior CCR's are done. Not as many are short credit that has been dealt with in the past.
- Communication between parents and the counseling office needs improvement. Caleb assured the parent that would be talked about in their department meeting and improved on.
- Complaints of email communication between teacher and parent arose again. Mr. Openshaw once again explained to the council if parents are not getting a teacher email response back within 48 hours, email him and he will make sure the teacher takes care of the communication.
- Dancing up a Storm is coming up in December this year. The ballroom community is looking forward to this event.
- Kudos to the 9/11 assembly! Parents and students were very impressed with what was done for that assembly.
- Parents are pleased with the way the TMU process and Skyward is working.
- Lunchtime is a problem. There is not enough room for students to sit and eat. Right now the weather is warm enough for students to go outside and eat. What are they going to do when it is cold outside?

NEXT MEETING:

November 6, 2014

5:00pm

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