Westlake High School

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 26, 2009 – 12:00 Noon
Westlake Front Office Conference Room

Attending: Todd Abney, Natalie Clark, Cassie Gross, John Festin, Laura Giles, Tani Ireland, Ashleigh O’Connor, Fred Openshaw, Kate Ross, Brady Rowley, Steve Stewart, Julie Wallace

Excused: Julie Barnum, Stephanie Cottam, Ryan Tyson

John Festin welcomed the group to the meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Middle School Update—Mr. Stewart gave the update on the progression of construction of the new middle school. He is very pleased with the way it is coming along. It is just about ready to be locked down and shut before the cold weather sets in. The boundary committee has begun to meet. Right now the district is looking closely at the boundaries being the same as the high school. This would make the new middle school start out very large. The board meeting that will be held on January 26, 2010 is when they announce the boundaries. The naming of the school will take place after that. There will be board meetings between November 30, 2009 and December 12, 2009 that patrons will have a voice for where they would like to see the boundaries set. They are looking at realigning middle schools from Timberline Middle School in Alpine to the new middle school in Saratoga Springs.

WHS Mission Values and Goals—Mr. Openshaw reviewed with the council Westlake’s mission values and goals. Since Kathy Janzen from Alpine School District visited us last month, Mr. Openshaw wanted to compare each mission statement and review the goals that we have set as a school. He wanted the council to see that Westlake has used ASD’s as a guideline and then narrowed it down to serve our students needs.

Trustland Report—Mr. Openshaw explained that each of the council members should have received the final Trustland report through email within the last month. He wanted to make sure everyone felt okay about what they had seen on the report and gave them the opportunity to ask questions regarding Trustlands.

Data and Grade Distribution—Mr. Openshaw showed the council how teachers can look at data that is uploaded from Powerschool and can be viewed in Cognos, which is a district program that is helpful for teachers. Teachers have been encouraged to run this report weekly and use the data so they know how students are doing in their classroom. Right now, students are working with teachers to earn credit for this term before it ends. Teachers are dialoguing with one another and working through the “hick-up’s” together. They are once again asking themselves “What am I teaching?”, “Are the students getting
the information?” and “What can I do to teach better?” The Powerschool report as of today, is 84% is passing. Mr. Openshaw would like to see it in the 90% range. We will see where the first term ends up.

Teacher Incentive Plan—On February 5, 2010, there is a meeting where 4-5 teacher teams present data on collaborative teams. Mr. Openshaw is in need of parents to attend this meeting. It will go from 8am – 11am. If anyone is available to attend, please let him know at the next meeting.

Traffic Light—Information on who to contact was handed out. The council has expressed their concerns for the dangers of safety on the corner of Redwood Road and Pony Express Parkway. Patrons can contact Larry Montoya @ 801-965-4924 or by email lmontoya@utah.gov.

Elections—Mr. Openshaw made the proposal of appointing the spot that needs to be filled for the Saratoga Shores area. The council voted and approved this motion. Council members are to come to the next meeting with names of possible candidates or you can email possibilities to Mr. Openshaw. We will discuss the candidates at the next meeting.

Questions/Concerns—There is a Spanish Immersion program at Harvest Hills. There is a concern that there will not be high enough class levels to accommodate students who need more advanced classes. Mr. Stewart and Mr. Openshaw are already looking ahead to that issue. Students will be able to do a school to school to the high school for advanced classes that the middle school is not offering. The college day was very good and helpful. Parents and students have had a lot of good things to say about it.

**Westlake High’s Dedication is November 10, 2009 at 6:00pm in the auditorium. All council members are invited to attend. **

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS: Elections: Appointing someone for Saratoga Shores area Teacher Incentive Plan: Who can go? 1st term grade report

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 7, 2009 12:00 Noon Westlake Front Conference Room