Westlake High School

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 5, 2013 – 7pm
WHS Conference Room

Attending: Todd Abney, Lynne Benham, Natalie Clark, John Festin, Nicolette Fike, Tani Ireland, Leslie Jones, Caleb Miller, Jentry McGregor, Kim Moir, Fred Openshaw, Trevor Schramm, Ryan Tyson, Angela Webb

Absent: Adam Bennion, Audrey Barton

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

Westlake’s Letter Grade: Westlake received a B grade. This grading has come from the legislature and is based on proficiency scores and graduation rate. All the high schools in Alpine School District were rated a B. Westlake was tied for 4th with Timpanogos High School.

2013 CRT Data: The 2013 CRT data was presented. Westlake had an overall percentage of 79.1%. In 2012 it was 79.2%, in 2011 it was 74.1% and in 2010 it was 70.4%. The range between all of the high schools in Alpine School District has narrowed over the past 4 years. Overall, Mr. Openshaw feels good about the data and where we are headed this year.

CRT Tests and Grades in the Classroom: There was a discussion about CRT’s and whether or not they should count heavy on a final grade and making sure that students know how to get an A grade. Students should have an outline so they are fully aware of what they need to do to get the A grade. Also, how do parents know that teachers are teaching what they should do and sticking to the core. How do parents know that students have been taught everything that will be on the CRT test? This is something that should be disclosed at the beginning of the year. Mr. Openshaw feels that we have to apply a little pressure to get the best out of students while taking the CRT tests. So to have a grade effected is one way that can happen. Teachers have been told to have a term by term syllabus that will outline exactly what will be taught. Teachers know they need to lay out what is expected from their students each term. This year, we will have a new testing program called SAGE. There is a common map being built between district and state on proficiency.

October SCC Meeting: The October 3rd School/Community Council Meeting has been cancelled. We will resume at the November 7th meeting.
Trustlands: Our Trustlands budget came in at $101,056. It is proposed that a small adjustment be made on the budget. Mr. Openshaw is proposing for that $93,422 be used for credit recovery and student advocates, $6400 for subs, and $1200 for ACT promotional items. The proposed budget was voted on and approved.

Parent/Teacher Conference: The first parent/teacher conference will be held on Wednesday, September 18th from 3-7pm. This is the traditional setting, which will be in the auxiliary gyms. All 4 hours will be general walk-in time. Council members were reminded to put up their PTC signs.

Back to School Night: Mr. Openshaw would like each council member to dialogue in their neighborhoods about Back to School Night and if parents would find it more effective if it was held before school starts? It would be a traditional Back to School night, where they could pay fees, get lockers, find classes, etc. Mr. Openshaw did feel that the informative session that was held at this past Back to School Night was informative and helpful for parents. Could we incorporate that in the schedule too?

Items from Council Members:
- October 16th is a Suicide Prevention Training at Westlake. More details will be coming.
- CCR’s for seniors are going on now. There will be a lot of great information given to the seniors and their parents at these meetings.
- This year we will be doing individual CCR’s with the sophomores. That is new this year and we are excited that are numbers are lower to make this happen.
- The overall culture seems much better this year. Kudos to Ms. Walker and the Student Council, who are setting a great tone.
- Thursday’s this year is now called “Thor’s Day”. This is a day to celebrate that we are Thunder. Students, faculty and staff will wear Westlake gear and be proud to be from Westlake!
- We need to be clearer on our communication regarding senior refunds as well as general student refunds.
- Dress Code is a continual battle. We are doing our best to monitor this.
- Jentry McGregor, who is the Service Chair with Student Council, is heading up a “Cause for Hope” clothing drive. Donations can come in anytime through October 18th. At the football game on October 18th, there will be a truck here and will take any donations that is included on the list. You can find the complete list of what they will and won’t take on our website.
- We are off to a great start…keep up the great work!

Follow-Up Items: Trustlands Videos
Back to School Night Feedback

Next Meeting: November 7, 2013
7:00pm
WHS Front Conference Room