

September 14, 2017

Salem Junior High School Community Council Minutes

In attendance: Rebecca Devenport, Wendy Kimber, Shelley Hendrickson, Melanie Paxton, Dawn Craner, David Knudsen, Kevin Mecham, Terry Krieger-James, Cameo Johnson, Lorraine Rupper, and Scot Moldenhauer.

Excused: Amy Garrick

Welcome:

David and Terry welcomed SCC members and members were introduced and contact list information was updated.

Vote for SCC chair and co-chair:

Rebecca Devenport was voted in as SCC chair and Lorraine Rupper was voted in as SCC co-chair for the 2017-2018 school year.

Discuss Time and Day of SCC Meetings:

The October 12 SCC meeting was changed to October 11 because on October 12 there is a Nebo School District School Community Council Meeting at the district office. The SCC also voted to change the starting time for future SCC meetings from 3:15 pm to 3:00 pm.

Update SCC Binders:

Terry distributed updated SCC contact information, SIP, Trust Land report, and other updated documents. She also gave SCC binders to new members (Dave Knudsen, Rebecca Devenport, Melanie Paxton, and Lorraine Rupper).

Announce District and State Trainings:

Terry pointed out the dates for the Nebo School Community Council Superintendent Meeting and the Nebo District School Community Council training meeting. She also distributed a handout about State Trust Land Training meetings that are held throughout the state. Shelley mentioned that she attended the State Trust Land meeting last year and found it informative.

School Community Council Training:

Dave discussed SCC and showed two state training videos. After the videos, he invited SCC members to ask questions. Dave then discussed the 2017-2018 SaJHS Trust Land Budget sheet.

SCC member Wendy began a discussion about Olympic Time. She expressed that students and parents are frustrated that students are now assigned to OT if they have low grades. She felt that kids can't go to the class of their choice to work on what they feel they need to work on to bring up their grade unless their grade is already too low. Dave, Scot, and Dawn explained how advisory is working this year and how kids will be working with their advisory teachers as they sign up. Scot said

it is possible for a student to speak to a specific teacher and be assigned to a specific OT. Dawn and Kevin also explained that when more OT choice is given to students, it is harder to target re-teaching to specific instruction and rather than targeted intervention, OT time is more like free make-up time. Wendy asked if teachers might welcome volunteer support with enrichments. Kevin said that the district office had tightened up regulations with volunteers in the school and that it can be challenging to get parents who are available for multiple days. Cameo said that the counseling office does a career fair, and they encourage parent volunteers as presenters. Dave said that in order to protect students, the state is now mandating that school volunteers provide more personal information, fingerprinting, background checks (and the money to pay for it).

Review School Improvement Plan:

Goal #1

Kevin explained OverDrive and how teachers are using it for professional development. We discussed how faculty members and departments met for two days during the summer for professional development. Departments worked to unpack standards, worked on curriculum maps, and created common assessments. Dave also paid for the subs for members of the math department when they met as a department for an additional day this fall. We discussed what happens in Youth Support meetings and how administrators, counselors, the school psychologist, and other key support people meet once a week to discuss how best to meet the needs of individual students. Kevin explained teachers also meet once a term as grade-level teams to discuss how best to help students. Wendy asked how often we conduct home visits. Kevin explained that we don't do many home visits, but we do a few. The SCC was told that our English teachers are presenting at and attending a national conference this year. Their participation in and travel to the conference is made possible through funds from Goal #1 in the SIP. Dawn asked if these funds may be used to pay fees for school support technicians to attend conferences, and Dave said yes. As far as measuring success for SIP Goal #1, we talked about how we utilized attendance data from professional development meetings that take place in the school and how Dave tracks the attendance at conferences.