

WILLOWCREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, October 8, 2007 - 12:00 Noon

Attending: Danelle Bates, Natalie Clark, Laura Giles, Lisa Hadfield, Tani Ireland, Leslie Jones, Heidi Moore, Fred Openshaw, Natalie Petersen, Allison Randall, Dixie Wilson, Tom Wiltbank

Others: Ryan Ireland

Excused: Dan Jackman

Group was welcomed by Natalie Petersen. Minutes from the September meeting were read and approved. Lisa Hadfield was voted in as the 2007-08 Co-Chair for our School/Community Council. The Co-Chair must be one of the acting faculty members of the Council.

Laura Giles gave a review from the District Training she attended last month. First of all, she wanted to say what a great School/Community Council we have at Willowcreek. It is very well ran. They instructed that the Council has authority to decide how to spend Trustland Funds, based on the needs of the school. We represent the communities we live in and are the voice in their behalf.

Mr. Openshaw gave the data on the Practice UBSCT test. In the fall, all 9th grade students are given the opportunity to take the practice UBSCT test. The comparison breakdown between 2006-07 and 2007-08 are as follows:

2006-07		2007-08	
Math (Part 1)	58%	Math (Part 1)	56%
Math (Part 2)	51%	Math (Part 2)	48%
Reading	68%	Reading	69%
Writing	65%	Writing	63%

The 9th grade teachers can see there is need for improvement in helping students understand the information given on this test. They have set a goal within their house for a 90% pass rate for the year. This year, the 9th grade class must earn 7 credits rather than 6, which means if a student takes seminary, they cannot fail a class at all. Last year, we sent 52 students to Lehi High School without 6 full credits. If the guidelines for 7 credits was in place last year, we would have sent 119 students to the high school without enough credits. The standards have raised for student achievement.

Mr. Openshaw also gave the data on the Practice CRT. This practice test is also administered in the fall. The data is as follows:

2006-07		2007-08	
English 7	49%	English 7	54%
English 8	55%	English 8	53%
English 9	48%	English 9	60%
Science 7	45%	Science 7	47%

Science 8	43%	Science 8	46%
Earth Systems	42%	Earth Systems	47%
Biology	39%	Biology	50%
Math 7	29%	Math 7	25%
Pre-Algebra	52%	Pre-Algebra	41%
Algebra	39%	Algebra	33%
Geometry	33%	Geometry	39%

We will give additional practice CRT tests in December and in February. Students will take the actual test at the end of April.

Academic improvement is increasing. As of Friday, looking at all grades entered, our overall pass rate was 88%. Last year at the end of term 1, our pass rate was 72%. Currently, we have 854 students with one or more I's or F's. We have hired Mrs. Tall to meet with students concerning their I's. She helps them for placement in a guided study hall to allow them to have these Walkaways made up in a timely manner. Teachers should allow the last week of the term for Walkaway make-up's and not administer new Walkaways for first term. Grades for first term are due by November 5.

Advisory Period—Mr. Openshaw explained basic guidelines he has set for Advisory Period.

1. Grades must be updated before teachers go home on Friday.
2. Teachers can enter grades on Monday's.
3. Absolutely no grades entered on Tuesday's. Teachers need to be able to pull eligibility or remediation for Advisory.

Intervention Tuesday's—Willowcreek has a program we are calling Intervention Tuesday's. It is working well. Both students and parents seem to be liking the fact that late busses will bring their students home after they have had the chance to make work up.

Dr. Gary Seastrand from Alpine School District visited our meeting. He gave special training to the council. He explained that accomplishing learning and student success is the goal of Alpine School District. He was very encouraged about the way Willowcreek was running their School/Community Council as well as the dedication to improve student learning. He explained that Alpine School District will take all students, giving them an education to become good citizens. We want to hire teachers who have a personal connection with students and make the stewardship of schools in the community better. The areas of focus are: student achievement, community relations, K-12 Literacy and Math, technology, school and district culture and our Professional Development. We want to work together in our collaboration teams, striving for the same goal, which is student success.

The discussion was opened up for any questions/concerns from the council. Members asked how the building of the new high school is progressing. It is coming along good and the boundary committee has been appointed. Plans for the new middle school are also underway. They hope to start that school next spring. Dr. Seastrand is hopeful to open the new high school, the new middle school, and an elementary all in the fall of 2009.

The new Trustlands DVD will be shown at the next meeting in November.

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, November 12, 2007
12:00 - Noon
WMS Conference Room**