

Willowcreek Middle School
SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL

January 25, 9:30 a.m. Attending: Glenda Carson, Jacque Christensen, Lisa Hadfield, Fred Openshaw, Alison Randall, Kim Southworth, Julie Wallace, Tom Wiltbank Excused: Julie Barnum, Tani Ireland

Committee members were welcomed by Julie Wallace. She expressed her thanks for time taken out of busy schedules to be in attendance.

Question was asked regarding next school year's registration. March 8th, 2005 - Lehi High School will present introduction to the registration process to 9th grade students. March 15 & 16 Lehi High School will be here to begin next year's registration.

Iowa testing results were discussed. 8th grade students were tested in September. Results on this Iowa test would be indicative of their educational experience while attending Lehi Junior High School.

Composite Grade Equivalent

Reading 63 9.3

Language Arts 54 8.6

Mathematics 54 8.5

Social Studies 57 8.9

Science 62 9.5

Core Subjects (average) 56 8.7

Willowcreek Middle School 58 8.5

Alpine School District 63

State of Utah 58

Comfortable surroundings and familiarity are key components for students taking tests. Our students and their test results were affected by the many changes that transpired this year—new school, new teachers, new student body, etc. WMS feels that next year's results will be a better reflection of our standing.

When the boundary committee was debating the school division - Lehi Junior High and the new middle school (Willowcreek), they discussed the academics of student population. Economics was also a factor. Test results are a product of these issues.

Trust Lands money is being used for Math and Science. Math Enrichment classes are based on need, not by request (due to lack of work ethic). This school year's Enrichment class was as productive as it could be. A change in class structure will be necessary. Student attitude towards enrichment classes will be looked at. Teacher recommendation will be a determining factor—elementary teacher recommendations for 6th grade students coming to Willowcreek will be helpful.

Science for 7th grade students has a curriculum that would benefit from a full-year schedule. This situation is being evaluated. Science has a broad curriculum and a full-year schedule would

allow more time for hands-on experiences. To delve deeper into science curriculum would give students more opportunity to learn.

Reading course—benefitting students. Placement has too much variance. Possibility of two or three different levels of reading would be helpful for future placement. Reading course as an elective is being discussed.

To hold School/Community Council elections in conjunction with Spring Parent/Teacher Conference, April 13th - 3:30-6:30 p.m., will have the council in place for next school year. A table with information available for Parent/Teacher Conference on February 9th will start the ball rolling. A member available for questions and answers would help create interest.

SEOP's will start February 7th. This parent/student contact would be a wonderful vehicle to acquaint parents with the purpose of School/Community Council.

A follow up on Student Led Conferences was discussed. Student prepares a booklet for the conference and makes the presentation to parents of what's been learned in class. The teachers can speak with parents but student responsibility is key. Several parents were contacted and they are not in favor of student lead conferences. Student involvement is a positive for ownership of one's education but it is felt it takes too much time for everyone involved.

The School/Community Council voted to have two Parent/Teacher conferences next school year. Parent member indicated that the time involved to attend four P/T Conferences was too great. Two marathon evenings in October and February for P/T Conferences will be scheduled.

P/T Conferences in the classrooms are working well. The 3-minute egg timers will be used again for this conference. Timberline Middle School is holding their P/T Conference in their cafeteria. Mr. Openshaw will make contact to see how well it went and report back to the committee.

Mrs. Margo Ungricht was praised for her diligence in calling home with negative and also positive news for parents. Parents are appreciative of the contact. Other teachers need to take the time to implement this practice into their schedules.

Too many school rules will end up governing all your time. Basic rules with consequences is how administration is functioning at Willowcreek. Teachers' input is a vital part of the effort.

Items reported by members:

1. North parking lot needs to be marked One Way for parents dropping off and picking up students.
2. Stop light or flashing light at HGW73/Willowcreek intersection was discussed. Mr. Openshaw will make inquiries.
3. Videos shown in classrooms. Are they appropriate? Did administration approve? Some

parents are concerned. This issue will be addressed.

4. Lunch money - why can't students charge? The district food service has very strict rules and lunch workers are not allowed to charge. Willowcreek will be responsible for one charge, then students/parents will be responsible.

5. Dress Code - is it being enforced? YES! If administration is made aware, they take care of the situation. Teachers are encouraged to send students down to the office when inappropriately dressed.

A fashion show at Lehi High School is being held February 16th at 7:00 p.m. Modest By Design and other participating stores will show modest dress combinations and where purchases can be made.

6. USOE.org is a link to review legislative bills being presented. For a voice in legislative happenings, do not e-mail or write letters. Telephone calls should be made with your legislative concerns because your conversation is recorded.

7. PTSA will have Candy Grams for sale during P/T Conference on February 9th. Wonderful opportunity for parents to send a little something to their student at Willowcreek.

Next meeting will be held March 8th at 9:00 a.m. at Willowcreek