

**Willowcreek Middle School
SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL
March 8, 2005 - 9:00 a.m.**

Attending: Julie Barnum, Glenda Carson, Lisa Hadfield, Fred Openshaw, Kim Southworth
Excused: Jacque Christensen, Alison Randall, Tom Wiltbank

Elections - How many posts will be vacant?

1-	Post	Cedar Valley	Julie Barnum
2-	Posts	Eagle Mountain	Julie Wallace _____
2-	Posts	Lehi	_____ _____
2-	Posts	Saratoga Springs	Jacque Christensen _____

The School/Community Council would like to thank Alison Randall for serving on the committee the 2004-05 school year.

Ballots will be made and available for the Parent/Teacher Conference April 13th. Applications have been received, voting will be necessary to fill some vacancies.

Trustland Monies - papers to be submitted to the district by April 13th for the 2005-06 school year. Mr. Openshaw suggested the funding be used to implement the 180 Reading Program. Rachel Adams, English Department Head, has visited several junior high schools in the district and sees value in the program for our struggling readers. The program will benefit readers at different levels. Willowcreek planning to service around 100 students - 7th graders. The program would include: 1/3 CRT Kits 1/3 Group work 1/3 Headphones for software work

There is data, a feature of the program, to track reading progress.

Reading tests will be given to 7th grade students. The concepts of our current reading program are great, but delivery is questionable – looking at teacher options. Test scores will determine placement, not parent requests. Reading classes will be held both ‘A’ and ‘B’ days.

The committee discussed Trustland funding for academic activity buses. Students would receive help from teachers – work study sessions. The buses (three total) would take students home to outlying areas. This venture is earmarked for the 2006-07 school year.

Math tutorial classes will be part of Willowcreek’s FTE allotment. Students will be served every day.

Late Start information was discussed. Willowcreek has been busy this year finding common ground. Team meetings have been held on Monday afternoon. Building relationships, creating

common rules and coming to group consensus concerns Principal Openshaw and he feels responsible for the overall attitude at Willowcreek. With the proposed Late Start schedule, Wednesday mornings would accommodate team meetings and that would free Monday afternoons for additional student help. The new schedule would still meet the state requirement of 990 hours of instructional time for students.

Junior/Middle schools are productivity, not senior high schools. The teacher ratio is 34.5 to 1. Teaming efforts are extremely beneficial for our students. After school work sessions are valuable for struggling students.

The vote from the committee was unanimously in favor of the Late Start schedule. Everyone understands that **all** district schools must approve the change for the 2005-06 school year. The group did feel there might be problems for working parents trying to adjust their work schedules to accommodate the late start Wednesday mornings.

Group Items:

1. PTSA planning a Spring cleanup and items to be donated to shelters.
2. 6th Grade Orientation received a 'thumbs up' from parents.
3. SEOP's are going well and parents are please with the Counseling Department and the care and service provided for Willowcreek students.
4. Students falling through the cracks - what can be done when students lose credit. A tracker is available at Willowcreek to help students and work with parent requests.
5. Students experiencing the down hill slide can usually be traced back to the use of tobacco and increased truancy. The beginning of bigger problems for students making unwise choices.
6. Are students aware of pitfalls? What should be done to make them aware. Do you educate and acquaint the entire student body with the many vices out there or do you simply address the problems are they arise - that is a big dilemma.

REMINDER: Next meeting scheduled for May 3rd at 9:00 a.m.