

WILLOWCREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

School/Community Council Meeting
February 13, 2006 – 12:00 Noon

Attending: Julie Barnum, Natalie Clark, Lisa Hadfield, Tani Ireland, Fred Openshaw, Natalie Petersen, Julie Wallace, Tom Wiltbank

Excused: Robert Bean, Ellie Bodily, Glenda Carson, Roberta Catmull, Laura Giles, Aleta Wilkinson

Julie Barnum welcomed the group and Natalie Clark read minutes from the January meeting. Minutes were approved.

Wednesday, February 15, 2006, is Willowcreek Middle School's Parent/Teacher Conference. A table will be set up for applications regarding the School/Community Council Board for the 2006-07 school year. There will be 2 openings for Eagle Mountain and 1 opening for Cedar Valley. Julie Barnum will check with Aleta Wilkinson and Laura Giles to see if they are still going to represent the Saratoga Springs area. Julie Barnum, the presiding president, has fulfilled her two year role and will not be on the council for the 2006-07 school year. Those members who will still be on the board next year were given the opportunity to declare if they are willing to step in as president. Of those present, Natalie Petersen stated she would be willing to serve as president. Mr. Openshaw proposed there be a motion to vote for a new president. The motion passed and was approved.

Willowcreek has administered the UBSCT test to all 9th grade students. A letter was sent home to parents to inform them of their students' scores along with areas where they may need help. The students' scores were based on a scale from 0-5. If they scored 80% and above, the students would be rated on the scale at a 4-5, which means intervention is optional. If the students scored 79% - 65%, they would be rated on the scale at a 3, which intervention would be recommended. If the student scored below a 65%, they would be on the scale at 0-2, which means intervention is highly recommended. The interventions have started. So far, we have taught one math intervention class, which consisted of 120 students. The English intervention class consisted of about 140 students. With the first intervention class, there were some minor details to work out with the buses and students obtaining bus passes from the teacher. These details were worked out and the second day of intervention went well. Next year the UBSCT test for 9th grade will be given at the same time the 8th grade will be taking the IOWA test, which is in September. Mr. Openshaw wants to give the test sooner next year to allow more time for intervention. The test scores are very helpful to the counselors as they go through the SEOP process. This way, counselors can help students enroll in classes that will be beneficial. The single most important thing parents can do for students is be involved in the SEOP appointment. Mr. Wiltbank, a counselor at Willowcreek, wants to say thank you to parents for taking the time to meet with their students.

With the State of Utah and the "No Child Left Behind" act, an assessment was taken of how well our school is doing. To make you aware, we received our report card--we passed in all areas.

Mr. Openshaw feels a need to use some of the Trust Land money for two additional trackers for the 2006-07 school year. The counselors felt it would be very effective. Currently, Willowcreek has a few students working with the tracker, who are not doing their homework. The feedback is very positive and grades have improved for students involved in this program. This year our Trust Land budget was \$28,000 and next year should be at least the same. The cost of two trackers would be approximately \$20,000. In addition, Mr. Openshaw feels applying \$2,500 for next year's license on the Vantage Learning System would be an asset. Both the 9th and 7th grade have been using the system this year. The students are enjoying this tool. Mr. Openshaw is going to find out why the 8th grade is not using the Vantage System. A rough draft of the budget will be worked up by Mr. Openshaw and presented at the meeting in March.

Population concerns: Julie Wallace talked of the population concerns. The opening numbers for the elementaries are overcrowded. Being on top of the bond that is going through and making the public aware will help. We need more elementaries and also a high school on the west side of Lehi. The location of the high school has not been determined. However, there is talk of ground north of Lehi and also west of Lehi. If we use our voices to help promote buildings on the west side it may help. We can also compile a letter as a School/Community Council and submit it to Donna Barnes, a member of the Alpine School District Board. This may also help. The letter needs to be e-mailed to Glenda Carson for proofing and will be presented at the next meeting in March. We need to be factual, not emotional in pushing this through. Be polite.

What is the process for incoming 7th grade students? On March 3rd, our feeder schools will be coming to Willowcreek for 6th grade orientation, where registration packets will be handed out. The following week, times will be scheduled for those students to come back, hand in the registration, and talk to a counselor. In December/January, Willowcreek visited every feeder school. Also, the 6th grade teachers of those schools came to a meeting on Monday, February 6th, 2006. There was a good turn out. However, a representative from Pony Express and The Ranches Academy did not come attend.

On Friday, February 24, 2006, there will be a representative from the State Office of Education visiting our school to review the Read 180 program. Two members of the School/Community Council are invited to attend. Julie Barnum and Natalie Petersen will be present. The meeting will start at 11:30am in the

Next Meeting: March 13, 2006
12:00 Noon – Snacks Provided
Willowcreek Conference Room