

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
September 26th, 2016
5:30-6:40 pm
Riley Library

In attendance: Heidi Cowan, Heather Bennett, Chris Mitchener, Eseta Moala, Nadia Rockwood, Christi Paulson, Nelisa Tapafua, Irma Quiroz, Jose R. Garcia, Maria Gomez, Shawna Govero, Sarah Farah, Angelica Estrada, Carla Silva, Bosco Baluku, Jim Martin, Ron Urbin, Maria Mendoza (interpreter), Leonardo Gutierrez (interpreter).

The meeting started at 5:30pm. Introductions took place.

The SCC voted on a chair. The chair for the 2016-17 school year will be Chris Mitchener.

Dr. Martin shared the school report card. The report card is published by the Utah State Board of Education. It shows how we did on end-of-level testing. Riley dropped a little in language arts proficiency. We stayed about the same in math. In science, we also experienced a large drop. Parents wondered why this is happening. We discussed several things: there has been a great deal of turnover in administration and teachers in the last several years. Riley also has a high chronic absenteeism rate. Dr. Martin explained some of the initiatives we are working on to help with attendance this school year.

Based on the report card, Dr. Martin asked the SCC to consider the School Improvement Plan (SIP) and what should be changed about it, to better reflect our current data. The SIP summary was shared. The following recommendations were made: technology, attendance, achievement gaps between male and female students, declining results in the upper grades (vertical teaming?), parental involvement including parents as tutors and at-home reading, and Youth Teaching Youth programs. Dr. Martin will bring these recommendations back to the School Improvement Council (SIC) and the Riley faculty to discuss possible changes to the SIP.

Dr. Martin shared with parents that the Land Trust plan includes paraprofessionals (assistants) to help with our Power Hour program. The paraprofessionals help teachers work with students who are struggling by providing language arts and math intervention.

Dr. Martin circulated the emergency plan and invited parents to request a copy if they didn't get one. The SCC discussed some of the major procedures included in the plan including lock-down and fire. Riley has an emergency drill monthly. In October, we will be practicing the lock-down procedure. Parents inquired about lock-down emergencies and how they are notified. Typically, notification occurs after the lock-down in the form

of an automated call and/or a letter. Our two relocation sites in the event of an emergency evacuation are the Sorenson Center and Mountain View, in that order. A parent asked about carbon monoxide detectors. Heather Bennett, Salt Lake City Board of Education President, said she would get the information.

Other issues were discussed by the SCC. There was some concern about the flag and who is responsible for taking it down and putting it up. There was also concern expressed over the number of notes that are sent home. It was suggested that one member per family be assigned responsibility for bringing notes home. It was also suggested that individuals wishing to have notes simply emailed be able to request this. Requests for going paperless (as far as notes home) can be made in the office. One parent also asked about the book fair and if there will be a way for parents to purchase wish list books for teachers. Dr. Martin said he would check on this. Donations of gently-used books are always welcome—if teachers are not able to use them in their classrooms, we will donate them to kids for their home libraries. Another concern was expressed that a first grade student went to the bathroom and when she returned her class had left. She went outside looking for them and got locked out. The parent asked that lower grade classes be alerted to this situation so that they can ensure this doesn't occur again. Finally, parents asked that the topic of bullying be put on the next SCC agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 25th at 5:30 pm. Minutes by Jim Martin.