

Midvalley School Community Council

October 2019 Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 10, 2019

Time: 3:30 pm

Council Members present – Tamra Baker, Principal; Rona Bresnahan, 1st grade teacher; Becca Staker, parent; Kara Shea, parent

Final reports for last year's plan – Mrs. Baker submitted today

Adjusting multi-year TSSP and LAND Trust goal – Mrs. Baker distributed a memorandum explaining that our school goal has been to reach 80% of our students making adequate yearly progress, but the district's Instructional Supports Department has explained that having 80% is basically unattainable, and that 60% growth reflects really superb teaching, learning and programs going on at a school. Our SCC agreed to recommend adjusting our school growth goal, and Mrs. Baker will send our request in to the district board of education.

Electronic Devices Acceptable Use Policy – cell phones and i-watches are big distractions at elementary school. The school maintains enough technology/digital devices for students to use here, and wants students to leave their personal devices at home. It can become a concern when personal devices use their own network and not the school's wi-fi. Then we don't know if there are any content filters, and the administration feels a responsibility to protect all the students from harmful things other students might be bringing into the school. Therefore Midvalley's policy on cell phones and i-watches is to leave them in backpacks, or as a secondary option check them in to the teacher for the day. We don't need to use them for anything in classes. Mrs. Baker has had some parents who insist that they need to be able to reach their student during the day. Mrs. Baker tells them to trust their child's teacher to be able to care for them for 6.5 hours. Students need to be learning to go to an adult at the school if there is a problem, not calling or texting home every minute.

New digital filter "Content Keeper" – this new filter is being implemented school wide. All teachers' devices are moving over to this wi-fi. It has better protections and sends an alert to a teacher if certain keywords are searched. This will be used in the new building, which includes technology upgrades.

The district has developed a school safety report that they want the SCCs to review and then discuss in November. They want to hear our top safety concerns at our school. Please read through the report, discuss a little with other parents, and be ready to discuss it at our November meeting.

http://canyonsdistrict.org/images/SCC_School_Safety_Report.pdf

Parking lot update – teachers have been in the parking lot every morning helping to direct traffic and pedestrians. They are seeing parents park on the south side of 7800 South near the west side of the building and jaywalk with their students across 7800 S, especially to get to the kindergarten waiting area. The teachers on duty have pointed out the correct safe walking route, but some parents are refusing to use it. Mrs. Baker brought in people from the district to watch what was happening, and after watching one morning and one afternoon, they advised the staff that parents are free to make

these choices for their children, and when the students are with their parents the parents are implicitly accepting liability for them. The staff in the parking lot will not continually confront parents who don't follow safe walking routes. Teacher duty on the school grounds before and after school is doubled this year to keep everyone safe during construction.

Attendance – attendance is up so far this year. There will be an award drawing at the end of the year that any student with fewer than 8 absences will be entered in. The grand prize will be a bicycle.

New building updates – the 2nd floor concrete is scheduled to be poured next Monday, the 14th. The roof will go on most of the building by the end of December.

Halloween Parade – the LDS church just northwest of the school has given permission for parents to park in their lot on Halloween morning. All the spaces in front of the school will be reserved for handicapped parking. Parents may come in the west doors of the school for the parade, entering the lunch room or south of the gym. A staff member will be at each door monitoring entrance.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 14, 2019 3:30 pm