

## MIDVALLEY SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2021, 3:30 pm via Zoom

Attendees: Tamra Baker – Principal, Ms. Morgart – teacher, Stephanie Williams, Kara Shea, Kemi Sutton, Becca Staker

TSSP funds – there is some extra money this year because we can't do everything in the budget due to Covid. Mrs. Baker proposed using the extra money for reading incentives. Discussion around teachers seeing reading losses due to school changes with Covid. Our 95% program is helping, but school data points to our students just needing to spend more time reading. Currently students aren't held accountable for home reading. We could reemphasize that by doing drawings by grade for kids who meet their grade's home reading requirement. This idea came from the teachers – kindergarten has already started it without incentives. Stephanie is concerned that all students doing the work would not be drawn for a prize, only a few would. Ms. Baker said they would be sure each student who meets requirements would at least get one prize, and the drawings would be for maybe a nicer prize too. Kemi suggested getting the whole class the same book so they can read parts together in person or virtually, then they can do extension activities focused on it too. The County Library is doing a winter reading challenge in February – could go together.

A vote was taken, and the motion to use excess TSSP funds this year for reading incentives was unanimously approved.

Cell tower – Mrs. Baker gets a percentage of school picture money to spend on the teachers for things like food in staff meetings to Christmas gifts. Normally that's \$1200 per year, but there were no pictures last spring, and fall pictures brought in <\$400 for this fund. We save cell tower money every year, which needs SCC approval to use. Mrs. Baker wants to transfer \$2000-\$3000 from cell tower money to principal discretionary fund. That would replace lost funds from this year and provide a buffer for her to be able to purchase items ahead when she finds good deals as well as leave some for the future. The cell tower money is just being saved, so we wouldn't be diverting programming money to do this. Everyone agreed that teacher appreciation is an important morale boost for our teachers, and is important to teacher retention.

A vote was taken, and the motion to transfer up to \$3000 from cell tower money to principal discretionary fund was unanimously approved.

The BLT is starting conversations next week about next year's TSSP & LAND Trust plans – let Mrs. Baker know of any ideas we'd like included.

School Data – Acadience testing was done, but it took longer than the expected 2 days due to testers and students being quarantined. Make-up testing is still going on. Aggregate school data isn't ready yet; it will likely take 2 more weeks for the district to get it ready. We'll be able to review the school data next time. One thing we already know is that the data this year will be somewhat incomplete due to students switching learning options. Students who learn at home won't be tracked from beginning, through middle, to end of year. Ms. Morgart has seen every student of hers improve or stay the same in math this year – usually some fall back. Mrs. Baker has seen K-3 making reading gains.

Next meeting Feb 18, 2021 at 3:30 pm