

Community Council

Friday, February 3rd

Attending: David Pendergast, Brittany Brimhall, April Moss, Julia Winkel, Monica Pace, Jaron Nelson, Joanie Denhalter, Alicia Dovenbarger, Jared Elder and Marissa Wilson

Meeting Notes:

This meeting was held in person.

Welcome – Pledge of Allegiance

School Improvement Plan Review

Goal #1: At Ellison Park Elementary, the proficiency of K-6 students below benchmark on their Acadience Reading Composite Score will increase from 71% to 80% at MOY.

David discussed MOY scores and sent papers around for council to look at.

MOY K-6 1.3% higher than the district average, but well below were we want to be. MOY K-3 2.7% higher than district average.

David told the council how Trustlands money was spent this year to meet ELA goal i.e., hiring aides for SPIRE. He plans to keep aides next year for SPIRE. Subs weren't hired for data team meetings this year per teachers overloaded but will resume next year. Didn't need subs this year or next year for LETRS trainings since takes place on professional day. \$2800 allocated for library books. Small change will take place in the library with a permanent bookshelf on the south wall to the west of the librarian's desk. Discussed how to allocate aides/tutors. Large share of Trustlands is for K-3. David said we might change what we look at, such as composite score; is composite score the best score to look at for 4-6?

Goal #2: At Ellison Park Elementary, the proficiency of K-6 students below benchmark on their Acadience Math and Forefront Math Composite Score will increase by 3% from BOY to MOY.

Forefront testing for grades 4-6 on hold for now, no data for math like K-3. David passed around Acadience math MOY scores for K-3. 1st grade went down, but 2nd and 3rd grade went up.

Goal #3: In the STEM Prep Makerspace Lab, each class will create a minimum of two projects per semester, including producing audio-visual/podcasts, 3-D printing, or coding robots.

Mr. Elder asked if there's any way we can incorporate AI into the STEM lab or library prep. He talked about chatgpt and how students can create their own stories. It was discussed and thought to be beneficial to students. Mrs. Moss, Mrs. Brimhall and Mr. Elder will look into that more and how we can incorporate it into goal #3 for next year. Will also look into getting more parent engagement incorporated into goal #3 for next year. David advised the council that the STEM lab mirrors the Davis Catalyst Center.

Goal #4: Incorporate Social Emotional Learning for students and staff to develop self-awareness and self-management skills and achieve academic and social/emotional success in math and reading as measured by SEL Walkthrough Tool and DSD School Climate Surveys.

Didn't talk about goal #4 today. District wanted schools to have SEL goal, but there isn't any money tied to it. Some members of the council asked how this goal is measured. David said it's measured by DSD School Climate surveys and SEL Walkthrough tool. Mrs. Pace explained how 4th grade does SEL and attaches it to the standard: Identify and practice strategies that promote positive mental and emotional health. Mrs. Moss explained how she does morning meetings/rug time for SEL. A parent asked if all teachers do SEL or if they are required. David said he doesn't require teachers to do SEL, but a majority of teachers do it each day.

Community Concerns and Questions

Marissa Wilson brought a safety concern to the council's attention. When she brought donuts early Wednesday morning for Pastries with Parents she found a knife sitting outside next to a lacrosse ball. She wanted an update about what's been done and how it's being handled. The Layton High School boy's lacrosse team practices at Ellison Park in the gym during cold weather. David's son is the coach of the lacrosse team. David said the superintendent is aware of the situation and said he hasn't had time to watch the video footage to see who left the knife behind. Marissa expressed her deep concern about what might have happened if the knife got into the wrong hands and said safety should be the number 1 priority. She questioned what would've happened if a student at the

elementary school came to school with a knife. David said it depends on the context of where the knife was and why it was brought to school. He gave the example of a student accidentally having a pocketknife at school because their family went camping over the weekend. Marissa expressed that the lacrosse team should no longer practice here if things like this are going to happen. She also brought up the team using lacrosse balls inside, instead of tennis balls. Lacrosse balls will damage the gym and then taxpayers dollars will go to fix the damage and said they should be using tennis balls. David said the coach agreed to fix any damage that occurs with the lacrosse balls in the gym. After some talking back and forth between David and Marissa, Mr. Elder stepped in and tried to see the situation from each point of view. After that Marissa Wilson stepped out of the meeting. She was emotional and upset. David apologized to the council and said he didn't think that was the right topic for this forum. The council seemed understanding of the situation at hand.

Next Meetings:

March 3, 2023

March 25, 2023