

Hillcrest Jr. High School

School Community Council Minutes

February 4, 2016



Members Present: Anita Longhurst, Daren Rasmussen, Quan Ngo-Thai, Michele Jaques, Jane Haight, Missy Rose, Jennifer Covington. Excused: Jodi Fait

1. Multi-Tiered System of Support Family Involvement Inventory
 - a. The council completed the Multi-Tiered System of Support Family Involvement Inventory that the district leadership team (DLT) has asked all councils to complete.
2. Information on PTA White Ribbon Week: April 4 – 8
 - a. Ms. Covington provided information about White Ribbon week the council. The week is being put on by the PTA. Utah Net Smartz will be doing an assembly on April 4 which is in compliance with the Community Council's responsibility of providing internet safety training yearly.
3. Information on 7th Grade Full Year Science
 - a. Ms. Covington let the council know that the school was working with the district and Riverview Junior High School to have a full-year 7th grade science class beginning with the 2016-2017 school year. The new state standards call for a full year of 7th grade science. Most schools in the state are offering 7th grade science for a full year. Ms. Covington explained that offering a full-year science class to 7th graders would give them more hands-on opportunities as well.
4. Information on Civics Graduation Requirement
 - a. Ms. Covington told the council about the state graduation requirement of passing the Civics test. Hillcrest will be giving this test to all 8th graders through their US History class at the end of Term 3. It is the schools hope that we can get help the majority of the students to pass this requirement early on so it will be met for their graduation requirement.
5. School Improvement Plan 2015 – 2016 Goal #1 – Support the school and district improvement plan of continuing to fully implement the Utah Core in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics: Development of Essential Standards
 - a. Ms. Covington told the council that core teachers in the areas of Math, Science, Social Studies, English, and World Language would be developing essential standards based on the core district-wide during their Professional Development day on February 16. These standards will then be used to create quarterly benchmark assessments so that data can be taken district-wide on the proficiency of our students.

6. School-Wide Student Focus

- a. Ms. Covington reminded the council that the school-wide student focus was “take care of yourself, take care of each other, and take care of our school.” She explained that they were currently working on the “Garbage Games” in an effort to encourage students to clean up after themselves in the commons area at lunch.

7. Questions/Concerns/Comments

- a. Ms. Longhurst stated that her students were still concerned about the backpack issue (students needing to keep their backpacks in their lockers.) Mr. Rasmussen said he understood the concern from the students but stated his daughter had had less back problems this year. The council talked about how the students may need some direct training on how to prepare for their classes without going to their locker between every period. Ms. Covington said the school would be assessing the backpack policy at the end of the year.

Two additional agenda items were added:

8. Murray Library Concerns

- a. Ms. Jaques said that both of her daughters work at the Murray Library and that they are having an issue with students there after school who are misbehaving. The council talked about how this is more of a community issue than a school issue and that programs were needed for these students after school. Ms. Covington said the Boys and Girls club had a good teen program that even fed the students. The council talked about possibly having the school offer language classes after school. It was suggested that interns could be used for this – possibly even students from Murray High School. Ms. Covington said she would address this with the students and put information about the concern in her weekly Hillcrest Happenings email.

9. Transportation from Fireclay Residential Area

- a. Mr. Rasmussen asked if any information had been received regarding the bussing of the students who live in the Fireclay area (this was discussed at our meeting in November.) The policy regarding the 2+ miles for bussing from the state was discussed as well. Ms. Longhurst expressed that her neighborhood was experiencing some of the same bussing concerns. Mr. Rasmussen suggested that the mayor, city council representative, and school board members be invited to our next meeting so the council could discuss their concerns with them. Mr. Rasmussen will invited these city and district leaders.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 3