

Minutes of Hillcrest Community Council Meeting
August 20, 2013 – 4:00 P.M.

Attendance: Cort Christensen, Tom Rohrer, JoLyn Carter, Julie Benson, DeAnn Lichfield, Eric Markworth

Welcome by Eric Markworth and introductions of new members.

Cort Christensen was nominated to serve as the committee chairman with Reed Olson as vice chairman and Julie Benson as the secretary.

We all need to become familiar with the role of the SCC. If you have questions please consult the website www.schoollandtrust.org. This is a good resource. We are each required to watch the videos "Touch the Future" and "Earning for Education." We will watch Earning for Education at the September meeting.

Data on student achievement is still embargoed and won't be available until the September meeting.

Bond and levy votes are coming up in November. Tom and Julie were designated as the contact people on the committee that Superintendent Garrett can give information to that needs to be disseminated to the committee. Heather Fairbank will be the teacher representative in this matter. The superintendent will attend our September meeting.

Our enrollment is up to about 535 students and so our budget is a little better than it has been other years.

Eric has already hired the literacy aides that are funded by land grant funds. Lisle Fuentes and Brenda Finlayson are the aides and they worked at the school last year. Title 1 funds will take care of the bulk of the literacy aides. There will be a total of 16 in this area. No math aides have been hired at this point.

Discussion then took place on what aides we will need for the coming school year. DeAnn indicated that the 2nd grade math aide wasn't as helpful last year as in previous years. Would additional math aides be beneficial? The math aides for 1st and 2nd grade will only be for traditional students. The DLI classrooms will have their own aides paid out of a different pot of money. Tom made a motion, seconded by Julie, that we not hire the 3rd literacy aide but put that money to hiring a third math aide. The motion passed unanimously. At the September meeting we will look at data on students and determine what the make-up of the classrooms are and if an additional math aide would be beneficial. We have enough in the budget to hire a 4th math aide if it is warranted.

The STEM committee has met a couple of times since spring and has identified big ideas in science. They would like to bring in resources, have field trips, guest speakers, etc., to get science back into our curriculum. Someone questioned if one of the committee members was writing a grant to get funding for the project. No one had the answer.

If an additional math aide was hired, there would still be \$1700 in the budget to spend on other projects. Would the \$1700 cover the wants and needs in the STEM program? Eric said that he had sufficient funding in his capital improvement budget to fund big STEM purchases.

The school is having a “Leader in Me” focus this year. We won’t be doing the program officially as that costs \$69,000, but the teachers voted unanimously to move forward in the direction of empowering our children to become leaders. They will reinforce the 7 habits in their classrooms and will begin using the language that will help the children be better.

The goals on the SIP were discussed. It was a really good year. Goal #1 was to have an increase of students from 49% to 72% at proficient or advanced levels on the SRI. The result was 69%. Goal #2 was that the school would be 80% proficient in math on the end of level tests. The result was 78%. Goal #3 was to raise all ESL students at least one language level. The result was 42/58 that met that standard. Of those numbers, 19/20 were in K, 8/22 in 1st, and 15/16 in 2nd. We didn’t meet any of the goals, but we are progressing in the right direction.

The staff will meet on August 30 with the student data and will assemble their suggestions for goals for the SIP. We will look at these suggestions as well as the data and will discuss goals for the SIP at the September meeting.

SCC meetings will be held the 1st Thursday of the month at 7:00. The only change will be in April when it will be moved to April 10 due to Spring Break.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.