

Hillcrest Community Council Minutes
October 2, 2014 7:00 A.M.

Attendance: Eric Markworth, JoLyn Carter, Cort Christensen, Jason Pond, James Blair, Julie Benson, Tom Rohrer

Welcome to James Blair from the school board. He has no agenda items, just visiting different councils.

Jason made a motion to approve minutes, Cort seconded, minutes were approved unanimously.

Did the SIP get submitted as required? Yes

Employee of the Year nominations were opened yesterday. I'll check with Stacy Hunter at the District Office to make sure that has been taken care of. We'll send a reminder home on Monday. How long is that open for? I think October 28, if my dates are correct. That gives me time to collect them and compile the results for our next meeting in November.

Have you drafted language to send in the letter to parents to alert them to the nomination process? No. Julie - I think at this point that we need to do it a lifetime achievement award since we don't really have data for this year. Jason, I agree, we really don't know how our child has done with our child this year. Tom - I will say what I have said before, we don't really have any criteria and the fact that we have to do it so early really muddies the water.

Since Dr. Blair is here, why are we doing it so early this year? I don't know, I have been on the board for 8 years and we have always done it at the end of the year so I don't know why it has changed. I'll look into it.

Presentation of SIP to the School Board at 5:50 on October 14. Who needs to be at that meeting? All of you are invited, it is a fascinating meeting. There will be 10 minutes of presentation and 5 minutes of questions. If you came it would just be in a supportive role. Does anyone want to go or Eric are you fine to go alone? Yes, if you came it would just be supportive.

Here is the final copy - Tom, actually we still need to change the 2014-14 in the Goal #2 Math core. Okay, this isn't the final copy. I'll make sure that change happens

The Big Rocks - JoLyn e-mailed me some great ideas and Mrs. Davis is working to make some Big Rock graphics so it is uppermost in the parents minds when they come to SEP conference. We will send the SIP, Big Rocks home in the newsletter. Is there a letter summarizing what this is? Yes, there is.

This (SIP) will be a changing document so if we meet our goals we will change and move forward. We can always adjust as we move along. We can always raise them. We don't want to lower them, but we might have to depending on what is happening. I will meet with all of the teachers by grade level next week so we can talk about individual students. How often does this take place? Monthly. Is that enough? Yes. We meet every 60 days as a school to discuss these issues.

After school program and registration - What we ended up doing is coming up with a paper copy and sending that home with students. On-line registration is still available, but paper copies are available if they don't have internet access. So we are full. Four of the 6 schools have a full after school club. Ellis and Woodruff are the ones that are not full, but they foresee being full after SEP conferences. Are there

people at Hillcrest who would like to be in it that aren't? We aren't aware of any. If there are K-2 is still open, but 3-5 they are being more selective. It is usually on a case by case basis that we add students if it is required. If we had more interest, could we hire another person? That is where it gets a little tricky. The grant that we get to hire staff goes 100% 1st & 2nd year, 75% year 3, 50% year 4. So what happens in year 4? That is where we might need to have community council help, fundraising help to address these problems. We have a balance in our budget, can we spend that for this ASC club. I would like to make the suggestion that community council donate \$1000, PTA \$1000, and then fundraise for an additional \$1000 for this ASC to get another grant to cover the discrepancy. How much is the total budget for ASC for our school? The Aspire grant is \$30,000, the 21st century grant is \$100,000. We get staff from many different areas. We do have a little slush from previous years to cover things. So, do you need a corporate sponsor for those on free/reduced lunch? Currently free lunch - free ASC, reduced \$15 for 1/2 year, full pay \$50 for 1/2 year. The grant says that we can't turn them away, but starting next year we'll have to make up the difference. Hillcrest and Wilson have the demographics to help our school which in turn will help students across the school district. Jason - We discussed running the funding through the foundation, but doesn't that limit us to \$500 mini-grants at this point? No, we can write a check for \$1,000 and earmark it for Hillcrest ASC. What happens if after SEP conferences students are identified who need additional help? If they are in upper grades, it will be a difficult discussion, but in lower grades they are good. Can we as a body make a motion now to get the wheels turning to approve spending the money? Jason I make a motion that we make the money available if it is needed. No vote was taken.

We are starting a robotics club with Dr. Gary Stewardson to get this up and running. He has donated a robot and there will be an application process so that will take some of the pressure off the ASC as we remove some of those higher achieving children from the program. I'm in process right now to hire someone from 11-5:00 to run this program.

If they are in the robotics club, will they miss the opportunity to get their homework done during after school club? We send out notices to parents and alert them to the possibility that their student may miss homework time to participate in the robotic program.

I thought that the enrichment was going to be during school, but now it seems to be we are going after school. Right now the person will be here from 11-2:30 that will be doing curricular things and then they will be available to do the after school portion of this enrichment. So they need to be skilled in social studies and math and science? Yes. Have you identified someone? No. Does it have to be the same person? No, but it seems that it is easier to hire someone for 5 hours rather than 2 1/2 hours etc. Have we used the university resource? No, it makes it difficult because the student's schedules are so crazy.

I'm kind of with Tom, is the ASC club made up of students who are gifted/talented? It seems like we are going to miss the mark for getting enrichment to those who really need it. My student is bored in school and doesn't want to stay after school so it won't help in our situation. Currently we don't have any plans to expand past the 10 students per grade level that we currently have.

So, we are going to table the discussion for allocating more money?

Do you have a population that can fit this criteria right now? Yes, about 4-6 students, but I don't think we will have a problem filling this. So, I just need to know what direction I should go.

This isn't Trust lands money that we would be using, it is levy money. Tom - I think our Trust lands money should be used for curricular intervention instead of just staying after school. I want kids to be kids as long as possible. I hope that we have more than 4-6 kids. I think we will, but we just need the right person to run it.

Put on the agenda that I'll bring the information that Gary brought to me. There are only 5 elementary schools this year who will be running the program. They will be learning computer programming, etc. It will be so cool. Now we have the right operating system to move forward.

Robotics Club and Sponsorship will be on the agenda as well as the popularity contest (employee nominations).

Lincoln Elementary won the National Blue Ribbon award. What does that mean? I don't know. Maybe we could look into what that means. They are supposed to be a resource for other schools.

Cort - Thursdays are very difficult for me to get to this meeting. Would it be possible to move this meeting to Tuesday? Jason - If it is still in the morning. We will now meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 A.M. We need to make sure that is changed on the website so everyone will know when we are meeting.

Is there going to be another teacher on this committee? I have put it out there and haven't had any bites. I would feel more comfortable having teachers on the committee. Has the perception gone around that this body isn't of value? No, that isn't the perception out there.

Community council training will be November 5 at 6:00 at the middle school.

Adjourn 8:00