

Park City School District – PTO/PTA Community Council  
November 17, 2014, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

Superintendent: Ember Conley (absent; Kathy Einhorn attended instead)

Council Board: present: Sara Bresee, Riki Case, Shannon Schemmer, Cindy Vernon, Laurie West  
absent: Christie Worthington

PTO/A Presidents: Laurie West, Marilyn Carson, Christie Worthington, Amy Macuga & Kerrie McNeeley,  
Missy Hilton, Jodi Manwaring & Tara Stocker, Beth Cummings

Welcome: Kraig Powell – our representative

Hot Topics

- New Neighborhoods – inside and outside the district
  - East Creek Ranch – in Silver Creek, 8 phases, ~62 homes, fees into Trailside, which is already closed
  - Park City Heights - development behind movie studio, # of homes? – estimate 200-300 *tbd*, feeds into McPolin
  - Development near Home Depot / Promontory – (400 homes) (outside of district – South Summit)
    - Discussion: may build a private school and a charter school – *TBD*
  - Information on new neighborhood: With the exception of East Creek Ranch, no information is available online. Todd Hauber is doing research. The Master Planning Committee is working on determining exactly what neighborhoods are coming online when and what the impact is.
- Discussion of ‘what’s law’ v. ‘what’s policy’
  - It is a policy, but not a state law, to allow out-of-boundary kids to stay at a school, even after the school is considered closed.
  - We are starting to make “home checks”, to see if students actually live at the address listed on their registration form
- Discussion on boundaries
  - Upper Silver Creek feeds into North Summit, lower Silver Creek was annexed into Park City. Mo Hickey and Ember Conley have started talking to South Summit about boundaries.
  - We may have to redraw the boundaries between the school districts.
  - We may have to redraw the boundaries between the elementary schools within our district.
- Out of District students - Group discussion with input from Representative Kraig Powell
  - Mr Powell: This is the first time the “out of district” issue is coming up in terms of “a legislative” issue. This is a complex issue. Don’t have a lot of answers today.
  - Competing considerations: local control – conflicts with school choice and open enrollment policy. 85% of Utah legislators live on the Wasatch Front.

- A good way to approach the issue of “stopping” open enrollment is through “tweaking” existing policy, rather than asking for new or changed laws. We need to be careful with the language as not to trigger unintended consequences.
- What are the numbers of out of district students today?
  - We know of 150 out of district students, but believe it’s closer to 200. With a district total of 4750, 200 students make up 4.2%.
- If Park City has a dilemma in that expanding a school or building a new one creates more capacity for the district, which then causes us to continue to take out-of-boundary students.
- We need to consider how the state calculates the ‘space available’ at the school
  - Ex. Ecker – now running at 800 and feels full. State says it can fit 1000 students.
  - Note – you can’t count pre-K ... state counts those rooms as “Open”
  - Also – most districts don’t count ‘specialists’
- Trends –
  - Do we believe this is going to continue to progress?
    - Can we look back over 20 years (is it consistent at 3-4%) or has it gone up or gone down? Legislators may not consider 3-4% a problem, even though it costs Park City taxpayers over \$1M annually to educate out-of-district students.
  - How many Park City students are going to outlying schools?
    - We don’t know. Need to know this.
- Possible “tweaks” to existing policies that could benefit Park City:
  - Pre-school options...count the preschool issues (count the students and the space) into the equation
  - Look at Kindergarten – are they 50% of a student or a full student?
  - Consider the % and tweaking it downward to manage the ‘closed school’ calculation
  - Consider how often this is counted – increase it for accuracy?
  - Dedicated STEM space as part of the building space / max capacity equation
- Mr Powell will get information back to Riki. He also wants to work with the school board. We need to discuss if and when this is a battle we want to fight. We should consider working with the state office / board of education if we can avoid going through the legislature.

Updates from the District – Ember Conley (Kathy Einhorn covering)

- Sage Test Results / Galileo Test Results
  - Scores for each school in the Park City School District can be found here: <https://datagateway.schools.utah.gov/SAGE?schoolYear=2014&leaNum=22>
  - In English Language Arts (ELA), we’re higher than the state average for all students combined.

- ELA results for Spanish-speaking students was a good wake-up call, especially since a lot of our non-native English speakers who didn't do well have been in the Park City School District for quite a while.
  - The Sage test include a lot of "academic vocabulary" that English Language Learners are unfamiliar with. CARLA (the premiere for looking at language use and acquisition) say it takes 7 years to be fully proficient in a language, especially when talking academic language.
  - Some states use PARCC (not as rigorous as Sage), while others use Smarter Balance (more rigorous than Sage).
  - When you start a new assessment the scores tend to go down when you go from a multiple-choice to a language-based test like SAGE. We predicted a drop in scores.
- Master Planning Committee updates – to be covered next time
  - Class Sizes – to be covered next time
  - College math requirements – There is a rumor that has gone around that PCHS math classes don't align with expectations at the U and that some classes aren't recognized. This rumor is false. Colleges know that high schools are transitioning to the common core. The Regence Scholarship doesn't recognize Math 1010/1050 (old math), only Secondary Math 1, 2, 3 (common core math).

#### Learning from Each Other – PTO/A Representatives

- Discussion about how to best time PPES's Grant Committee deadlines with PCEF deadlines.

#### If There's Time

- Nothing this time

#### "Ask Ember"

- Questions/Rumors – NA, since Ember was unable to attend.

#### Next Meeting

- time: January 26, 2015 at 1:00 pm
- topics: Long term plans for Dual Immersion, Master Planning Committee updates, class sizes, updates from Mr Powell