

Park City School District – PTO/PTA Community Council

Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2015, 9:00 am

Superintendent: Ember Conley

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

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

Updates from PCEF – Sara Hutchinson

- EVA art supply budget for PPES, TSES, MPES
 - this is the second year of this art program
 - school PTOs should write a check to the district to purchase supplies
 - asking each school to contribute \$8 per student, minus the \$2000 the KAC is contributing
- Running with Ed
 - Schools should aim for 25% participation
 - Most teams aren't filled yet. Once teams are filled schools will be much closer to 25% participation
 - April 17 – all registration closes
- Excellent Educator
 - educators may be nominated by SB members, PTO board members, District PTO Board members, or district staff
 - nominations are due 4/3, the awards will be given 4/24

Updates from the District – Ember Conley

- Master Planning Committee and Grade Realignment
 - these topics go together and cannot be separated
 - several ideas have been looked at and their pros and cons are documented
 - on Thursday, April 2nd, Ember Conley will present the ideas at a public forum
 - the Master Planning Committee and district officials are currently favoring the following idea:
 - PreK-4th grades at each elementary school
 - 5th and 6th grades – new building at Bear Hollow
 - 7th and 8th grade – at Ecker Hill
 - 9th grade – moved to PCHS, need to add on to PCHS
 - the current recommendation has the following benefits:
 - we do not have to build a new elementary school. Building a new ES would increase our capacity and open us more to out of district students
 - removing 5th grade from the elementary schools opens up space needed for full day kindergarten, which will be implemented for the 2016-2017 school year
 - Combining 6th grade with 5th makes more sense than combining it with 7th because 6th grade is considered Elementary School in Utah and teachers need an additional certification to teach 7th grade. Combining 6th grade with 5th grade makes for easier staffing and curriculum planning.
 - Ecker Hill is laid out in a way that is conducive to 7th and 8th grade. Building a 5th/6th grade school is cheaper than building a 7th/8th grade school.

- having 9th grade at PCHS prevents 9th graders from having to walk between the two buildings, like they currently do
 - 5th/6th and 7th/8th will be close enough geographically to have shared activities, field usage, etc.
 - we would tear down TMJH. Fixing the school is almost as expensive as building a new one.
 - We could move the football field in the vicinity of the current TMJH and expand PCHS onto where the football field is now.
- The master planning steering committee will be the official body to make a recommendation to the governing board on ANY of these changes. The governing board is the decision making body for ALL of these decisions.
- These recommendations are with the information to date and subject to change as we collect input from our community.
- upcoming events around innovation, interdisciplinary teaching and excellence
 - “Most Likely To Succeed” – Sundance Movie that we’re trying to bring to PC in September
 - “The Smartest Kids in the World” – book by Amanda Ripley. Gives info on the most successful schools in Poland, Finland, South Korea, which are very homogenous communities. We will be sending school officials to these places.
 - “21 Trends for the 21st Century” – book by Gary Marx. He is coming in August for a session with teachers and a community session.

Other Hot Topics

- petition for later start time
 - there is a petition for later start times for high schoolers started by parents
 - surveys have been done in the past, results are posted on the district web site. Results show that high schoolers do not want a later start time, because they do not want a later end time
 - the master planning committee will be forming a sub committee to look into start times
- remodel of HS for PCCAPS
 - the PCHS library will be remodeled to allow collaboration space for PCCAPS and to make it more like a cyber café, which is a growing trend
- Impact of new laws – the following laws were briefly mentioned
 - HB119 Charter School Finance Amendments - requires a school district to allocate 25% of district per pupil revenues for each student of the school district who is enrolled in a charter school regardless of the charter school students' average local revenues
 - SB235 – low performing schools are required to make improvements
 - SB60 - requires a public school student to pass a basic civics test, or alternate assessment as a condition for receiving a high school diploma
 - New increase in property tax for equalization – this is a new tax

Learning from Each Other – PTO/A Representatives

- call to action emails vs Parent Voice (Riki)
 - emails that are missing information will not be forwarded until they are complete
 - a statement will be added that these emails do not represent the opinions of the District PTO/A
- after school sports at elementary schools – McPolin (Beth)

- MPES is working hard to increase the involvement of the latino community. There is a desire for after school sports to give kids something to do. It would have to be at or near MPES. PPES might be interested in participating in sporting activities, such as softball, soccer, or basketball

Next Meeting

- time: Monday, May 18th at 1 pm
- topics: