

MHS Community Council Meeting Minutes | February 2, 2021

Attending: Cheyla Mills, Diana Windley, Gwen Romero, Jeremy Floyd, Cyndi Flitton, Andrea Brooks, Jennifer Lance, Jim Ellis, Brennen Fuller, Crae Wilson, Shalece Sanders, Robert Kilmer

Excused: Raelene Blocker

(Meeting held via Zoom.)

Meeting called to order at 6:34 a.m. by Chair Jennifer Lance.

Consent Items: Minutes for November 24, 2020 meeting. Motion approved by Cheyla Mills with a 2nd from Andrea Brooks. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Items:

Trust Lands Funds / TSSA Grant Updates

Principal Wilson provided a quick overview of expenditures and remaining balances for Trust Lands Funds and the TSSA Grant. Under Trust Lands goal #6, a math lab teacher has not been hired due to lack of qualified candidates. In the TSSA Grant goals, the IT Tech was never hired due to lack qualified candidates within the salary range. Discussion on how to best allocate the remaining funds for the school year including options such as replacing old/damaged ChromeBooks, updating tech in classrooms to help facilitate recording of lectures (for students learning remotely during quarantine), and expansion of resources available to CTE and Arts Departments.

Gwen will coordinate with administration and teachers on MHS CC on needs. (See amended proposal below, sent via email to the MHS CC by Gwen Romero on 02/02/21 at 1:27 p.m.)

I would like to amend my proposal from this morning:

Crae, Brennan, Jeremy, and I: Meet with the CTE and Art departments to review needs and options for program development--pathways and course availability, needed resources, etc. We can also meet with the Leadership Committee and PLC Committee as appropriate to discuss the impact on programs and student needs. We will report to CC in our March meeting.

CC parents: Meet with/contact students and parents about programs they would like to see offered or receive more support. Report to CC in our March meeting.

I have attached a copy of last year's CTE survey; I think some definition of courses for each pathway would be helpful.

I strongly believe that we need to find a balance with student interests/post-high school goals and growing career fields, best use of resources, and availability of staff who are qualified to teach specific programs. This could involve using some Trust Lands or TSSA

money for professional development to help teachers earn specific endorsements or learn specific software, hardware, etc.

I also cannot stress enough the inadequacy of the facilities that Stacey Floyd and Kylee Crosby are using for their programs. They are both high-quality teachers in frustrating situations; I invite you to visit them in their rooms to see what I mean. Likewise, there is room for improved resources and range of offerings in the arts that will appeal to student interests and set them up for growing career fields.

We should especially be cognizant of district growth trends toward an increasingly residential/suburban environment and the needs of our students that entails.

Attendance Policy

The attendance policy posted in the online handbook isn't being strictly followed this school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Principal Wilson stated that in the 2019-20 school year, attendance averaged 94% and in the 2020-21 school year, attendance is averaging 90.4%. Discussion on issues with some students taking a casual approach to attendance due to relaxed accountability for absences. Due to the changes in software platforms, parents have not been automatically receiving phone calls/emails when students are absent. Principal Wilson noted that they are working on solutions to automatically notify parents of their students' absences.

Proposal to update/revise the attendance policy for the third trimester with an emphasis on student and parent accountability for unexcused absences. The policy will adhere to state and district approved COVID-19 guidelines. Principal Wilson will work on updating the policy for the third trimester.

Motion to adjourn by Andrea Brooks with a 2nd from Crae Wilson. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 a.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 @ 6:30 a.m.