

Community Council

MEETING JANUARY 13, 2015

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Centennial Middle School Community Council Meeting January 13, 2015

THE CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL MET ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2015, AT 1:35 P.M. IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM.

THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE MEETING:

Mitch Swenson, Principal
Sharon Bradford, Parent
Loni Thurston, Chair
Erin Radandt, Teacher Rep.
Katie Geary, Vice Chair
Rhonda Wall, Parent

Visitors: Superintendent Keith Rittel
School Board Member, Marsha Judkins

MINUTES OF JANUARY 13, 2015

1) WELCOME:

Loni Thurston welcomed Council Members and visitors, and thanked them for their attendance at the meeting.

2) SUPERINTENDENT RITTEL:

Superintendent Rittel explained to the group that the District's Human Resource Dept. had undergone several changes in leadership in the past few years. The current Executive Director, Gary Wall, had been hired by the Superintendent to mentor the current Director, Jason Cox, for a period of one year. The Superintendent's plan was to move Jason into the Executive Director position at the end of the year and then find a replacement for the director position. The Superintendent announced that Centennial's principal, Mitch Swenson, had been selected to become the new HR Director.

Superintendent announced to the council that a search will begin next month for a new principal at Centennial Middle School. This position will be open to the public and no preferential treatment will be shown to in-district applicants.

Superintendent Rittel noted that, as Superintendent, he could appoint someone to fill the principal position, but wanted to open it to the community to provide input. He provided the council with a timeline showing the selection process which will include a committee of 3 Centennial parents, with 1 alternate, and 3 Centennial faculty/staff members, with 1 alternate, to listen and provide feedback to him on applicants during the interview process. Supt. Rittel advised that this committee must represent the opinions of the community at-large, must be unbiased and flexible, and be willing to concede when out-voted. He encouraged anyone to submit topics of interest for interview questions to the District Human Resource Dept.

Finalist interviews will be scheduled for March 16 and 17, with a new principal named by March 24. A Community Forum, open to the public, will be held at Centennial on March 19 to meet the finalists prior to naming the new principal.

3) TOPS TUTOR REPORT (*Loni Thurston*):

The Council approached the District Volunteer Coordinator, Charity Williams, to see what tutoring resources were available through BYU for Centennial students. Charity indicated that the registration process is a simple one; however, BYU has experienced a decrease in available volunteers because the number of classes requiring service hours has diminished.

Background checks are required for volunteers who are alone with students. A \$60.00 fee is charged for each background check. It was noted that most volunteers are working in classrooms with teachers and it is not necessary to have a background check in these situations.

Council Member, Erin Radandt, was assigned to gather information on teacher interest for having TOPS volunteers to help in their classrooms.

Katie Geary and Rhonda Wall volunteered to assist with the management of TOPS tutors when they come to Centennial.

4)ACADEMIC SUPPORT AIDE UPDATE (*Mitch Swenson*):

Principal Swenson reported that Centennial has hired a fifth Academic Support Aide with the additional 2014-2015 School LAND Trust funding made available.

5)OTHER ITEMS:

Loni thanked everyone again for their attendance at the meeting. As the meeting concluded a discussion began regarding the allocation of Centennial's School LAND Trust funding. Committee members voiced a desire to have decisions made by the end of March for the 2015-2016 budget. There was a request to hear from Centennial teachers regarding their needs and to possibly not grant all the funds allocated next year to the Academic Support salaries. Another suggestion was to identify a specific amount of money (ex., \$5000) for teacher requests while continuing to allocate the majority of the money to Academic Support. Loni would like for committee members to study and come prepared to share ideas with the council at the February meeting.

6) NEXT MEETING:

The next Community Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 1:35 p.m., with a follow-up meeting tentatively scheduled for March 3, 2015. Loni indicated that two agenda items for the February meeting will be:

- 1) Erin Radandt will report on teacher's response to using TOPS tutors in their classrooms.
- 2) Discussion to continue regarding allocation of the 2015-2016 School LAND Trust monies.

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