

**CENTENNIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 14, 2019**

The Centennial Middle School Community Council met on Monday January 14, 2019 at noon in the conference room.

The following council members were in attendance at the meeting:

Kyle Bates-Principal

Dan Jensen-Chairman

Justine Dorton-Vice Chairman

Jennie Blum-Parent

Amy Hackworth-Parent

Paul Caldarella-Parent

(Linda Freeze-Admin.Sec. taking minutes.)

Absent: Josie Esplin and Arica Sumner

Also in attendance: Melanie Hall-Parent/School Board Member, Segre Petelo-Parent

Chairman Dan Jensen called the meeting to order and welcome everyone. Dan asked for the December meeting minutes to be voted on. Amy Hackworth made the motion to approve the minutes. Justine Dorton seconded the motion. All agreed.

When discussing the budget for 2019-20 and different options for spending the Trustland Funds, these were the ideas and thoughts:

Justine Dorton gave a report about **science pods**, something she had seen used successfully at Edgemont Elementary. Justine felt like this is a good resource for science. It is called "Engineering Everywhere". You buy the activity based curriculum from the National Science Foundation.

Dan has also been searching for **activity based curriculum for math**. He has found very little to purchase that could be used to help engage the students more. Amy Hackworth volunteered to email all the math teachers to see if they had any ideas or suggestion of what they could use to help engage students when teaching math. Anything that could be purchased with possible Trustland Funds. (Later in the meeting, Kyle asked Amy to wait to email math teachers. Kyle would talk to them thru the leadership council.)

Paul Caldarella volunteered to look into ideas from his job at BYU.*

Dan Jensen wanted to share the email of what Kyle had responded about what the school is currently doing to enhance learning in the math department. Kyle wrote: "Dan, I understand your concerns. Math instruction and achievement has been for years a stubborn problem at the secondary level. To your point, engagement in a classroom is everything, so we're taking measures this year to improve engagement in all classes by improving tier 1 instruction. There are two specific things we're currently doing relative to improving instruction and student engagement that you might not be aware of. The first is our focus on implementing, via a collaborative teacher learning community approach, a new research-based teaching strategy every month this school year. The leadership council chooses this strategy in its monthly meeting. The strategy is then introduced to the whole faculty at faculty meeting the next week, and teachers then discuss its implementation in their individual classrooms during their TLC meetings the Monday after faculty meeting. Then Chris and I visit classrooms that month and check to see if the new strategy is being used and to what effect. Second, Chris and I have put in place a new protocol for teacher observation and evaluation that has us in classrooms much more often but for shorter periods of time. We also conference much more frequently with individual teachers to give feedback about their performance. We think these efforts will have a beneficial effect and are excited to gauge their impact."

Test taking helps and strategy for students. This could help reduce anxiety and stress for students. Dan reported that he is trying to find the right training to use for middle school students.

Kyle responded to these ideas by saying he thought it would be a good idea to bring these ideas up to the school leadership team. (Which is made up of about 12 teachers from different departments.) He would ask all departments what that could use to help improve student activity based learning and help students prepare better when taking tests. These ideas would be brought back to the Community Council, which would help in deciding what things could be purchased out of Trustland Funds.

Kyle asked Dan to reach out to PTA for any ideas they may have in this area.

*Paul emailed me by the way of follow-up to today's meeting: He spoke with the chair of BYU Math Education Department regarding making math more engaging with project or activity based learning in middle school. He recommended two programs: 1-Connected Mathematics 3 <https://www.pearsonschool.com/index.cfm?locator=PS1yJe> and 2-Mathematics Vision Project <http://www.mathematicsvisionproject.org/>

He said the Connected Mathematics has a strong research base behind it. The second is a local initiative started by folks from Alpine District, which focuses more on upper math content, but which has also seen positive results.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 11 12 NOON:

ACTIVITY BASED LEARNING IDEAS FROM BYU—PAUL

PTA IDEAS—DAN

REPORT BACK IDEAS FROM LEADERSHIP TEAM--KYLE

TRUSTLAND FUNDS BUDGET – KYLE CHECK WITH DISTRICT TO SEE BALANCE. DO WE NEED TO ALLOCATE MORE MONEY FOR 2018-2019?