

Peruvian Park Elementary School-Community Council Meeting

20 January 2016

Attending: Gretchen Murray, Jennifer Crane, Melinda Morgan, Leslie Jewkes, Katherine Manousakis, Jessica Dalton, Stacey Kratz

Budget Report: Ms. Jewkes reported that the Land Trust. It is expected that the budget projections will be accurate. Funding substitutes for coaching will most likely be expended at the end of the month. The teaching staff this year found coaching time to be very valuable. Looking forward to next year's budget, things may change a bit from this year, as we used last year's carryover to partially fund this year's five aide positions. It appears that we will likely be able to keep all five aides and hours will be adjusted with new budget.

SITLA/Land Trust Plan update: In the February, we will receive the Building Leadership Team's contribution to the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan just before February's meeting. We will revise the plan at that February meeting because it is due by March 15, before the SCC meets again. We will have to make some estimates with our SAGE testing because the full data will not be available until the end of the school year.

Initial neighborhood MCOMP results show the school's students are showing significant improvement. All neighborhood classes show large increases in number of students at benchmark level. Assistants intervention will be targeted to new students in the school not yet at benchmark. SALTA MCOMP scores also are progressing well, with students approaching the year-end goal of having 90% of students above the 90th percentile for MCOMP. Several classes have already reached that goal.

In reading, similar progress is being made but district benchmark testing has not yet been conducted. Mrs. Murray reported, anecdotally, that early, unconfirmed SALTA data is showing that around 70% of students in each class are showing a good amount of growth and 30% are not making the growth we hope for

We will have official data on MCOMP for neighborhood and SALTA classrooms as well as reading assessments for neighborhood and SALTA at our next meeting.

Mrs. Manousakis said it might be helpful to parents to provide information about lexile levels and what they mean and that such information is available on the Scholastic web site. Mrs. Kratz said we could print out some lexile information and hand it out at the upcoming book fair during the first week of February.

Anti-bullying/White Ribbon discussion:

Ms. Jewkes said the BLT met in January and made a plan regarding the school's anti-bullying efforts, discussing several different options. Mrs. Murray said that each teacher on the BLT wanted to focus on what we have been doing, Panther Expectations and the behavior we expect, rather than focusing too hard on the behavior we don't want. She said that doing the latter seems to bring out those

undesirable behaviors to a much greater degree than focusing on positive behaviors.

BLT is reviewing Panther Pride expectations and looking for anti-bullying lessons and problem solving that match the expectations. SCC will work on plan educating parents on the difference between an incident at school that was bad, and actual bullying. There's a very specific definition we have of bullying, and we'll be talking about it at Back-to-School Night this fall, both to the general parents and within individual classrooms.

Mrs. Bond has a very effective problem-solving method she uses with students that will be incorporated school-wide. PBIS anti-bullying motto has been "stop, walk, talk;" but that the staff wants to make that more than a slogan and treat it more thoughtfully when teaching it to students.

Regarding White Ribbon/computer literacy and citizenship efforts, Mrs. Dalton said she has been reviewing several different ideas for teaching those concepts and has particularly enjoyed the videos that have shown the teachers in the classrooms with the students, working through those issues in a practical way. In addition to being effective teaching tools, such videos when available to parents also help reinforce the same digital citizenship concepts at home. Ms. Jewkes said that Mrs. Jessica Chang, the school's point person on these issues, is not yet back from maternity leave, but some school efforts are going forward: NETsmart is taking place the week of Jan. 25-29, and we may delay White Ribbon Week and have it in March to give us more time to plan and coordinate efforts between the BLT, SCC and possibly PTA

Food insecurity discussion:

Mrs. Dalton said she has been worried about the issue of food insecurity among Peruvian Park students and wondered if the school could be doing more to help or at least be a center for finding outside resources for families struggling with those issues. Several SCC members expressed gratitude that Ms. Jewkes was able to get a breakfast program going at Peruvian Park and said that program is helping many students, but that weekends are an ongoing worry. Mrs. Kratz said she has heard of schools in other states that provide backpacks of food for students to take home on the weekends, usually just simple foods like ramen, peanut butter, bread, canned beans, etc. She said we could approach the Utah Food Bank or possibly St. James Episcopal Church, a nearby church that has a food bank kept stocked with help from the Utah Food Bank.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on February 17, 2016.