

Peruvian Park Elementary School School-Community Council Minutes

Meeting: 3:30 p.m. Sept. 30, 2015, in the Peruvian Park library

Present: Gretchen Murray, teacher representative; Leslie Jewkes, Peruvian Park principal; Stacey Kratz, chair; Jennifer Crane, vice chair; Melinda Morgan, council member; Jessica Dalton, council member; Katherine Manousakis, council member

Agenda items:

Election of chair and vice chair

ACTION: Stacey Kratz was nominated for chair by Jennifer Crane, seconded by Melinda Morgan; elected unanimously.
Jennifer Crane was nominated for vice chair by Stacey Kratz and seconded by Melinda Morgan; elected unanimously.

Set meeting days for remainder of school year

There was some discussion about which days would be best considering Leslie's very busy after-school meeting schedule; it was determined that Wednesdays were by far the most open days.

ACTION: Meetings for the remainder of the year were scheduled as follows:

October 28, 3:30 p.m.

November 18, 3:30 p.m.

January 20, 2016, 3:30 p.m.

February 17, 2016, 3:30 p.m.

March 16, 2016, 3:30 p.m. (with an option to meet later in March if necessary to finalize plans)

April: 20, 2016: 3:30 p.m.

Establish rules of order and procedure and review/update bylaws

Existing bylaws mandate a minimum of eight parent members for the SCC, with no maximum number named. It has been difficult to keep a roster of eight parent members and several members felt it was problematic to not have a cap on the number of parent members due to the unwieldiness of overly large groups.

ACTION: Leslie Jewkes made a motion, seconded by Jennifer Crane, to amend the bylaws to reflect that the Peruvian Park SCC would be composed of a minimum of two school employee members plus a minimum of four and maximum of eight parent members. The maximum allowable school employee members would reflect state law, which says that there must be two more parent members than faculty members on each school's SCC. The motion passed unanimously.

Review requirements for open and public meetings

We also had a short discussion of the fact that SCC meetings are open to the public. We discussed notification requirements and explained the ways in which notice is communicated to the school community (notices of meetings and agendas posted at school, on the school web site, etc., as well as draft minutes posted after meetings and final minutes posted after they are approved at the next meeting). We also discussed plans to post the meeting schedule for the year on the front-lobby bulletin board. Regarding decorum, Stacey Kratz emphasized that anyone who wishes to attend SCC meetings is welcome and, at the direction of the chair, may speak to matters on the SCC agenda. The discussion emphasized the need for civility and decorum at meetings, with every person attending being treated respectfully.

Current year plan review

This item was presented by Leslie Jewkes with assistance from Gretchen Murray. They included numerous data charts to show student progress (mostly broken down by neighborhood students and SALTA students, though at times measuring the school as a whole) in MCOMP (math assessment); RCBM (reading assessment); two years of the standardized SAGE test in English language arts, math and science; the Utah Education PACE school report card; the school's statewide rank based on standard scores and state percentiles; and the school's discipline referrals in the past year.

Overall, the data showed significant student progress in most areas, as well as several areas in which achievement is lagging. Leslie said those areas are being targeted by both classroom teachers and the school's academic intervention aides. The data also showed that student progress in several areas makes it important to make some amendments to school performance goals in several areas:

■ **Current STEM performance goals, neighborhood students:** By May of 2016, 85% of neighborhood Peruvian Park students will reach or exceed MCOMP benchmark or advance one level toward benchmark on the spring MCOMP. By May 2016, 80% of neighborhood Peruvian Park students will reach or exceed proficient scores on math CFAs (curricular unit tests).

■ **Amended STEM performance goals, neighborhood students:** By May of 2016, 85% of neighborhood Peruvian Park students will reach or exceed MCOMP benchmark or advance one level toward benchmark on the spring MCOMP. In 2016, 70% of neighborhood students will attain proficient level on SAGE math assessment.

■ **Current STEM performance goals, SALTA students:** By May of 2016, 80% of SALTA students will reach or exceed the 90th percentile on the MCOMP benchmark. 95% of 1st-5th SALTA students will reach or exceed an average score of 90% on math CFA assessments.

■ **Amended STEM performance goal, SALTA students:** By May of 2016, 80% of SALTA students will reach or exceed the 90th percentile on the MCOMP benchmark. 100% of SALTA students will attain proficient level and 95% will attain highly proficient level on SAGE math assessment in 2016.

The reason for these amendments is that students are currently exceeding MCOMP goals. The students are taking SAGE tests for math that compare achievement and growth across the state.

■ **Current literacy performance goals, neighborhood:** By May 2016, 80% of neighborhood students will reach or exceed RCBM benchmark or advance one level toward benchmark on the spring RCBM.

■ **Amended literacy performance goals, neighborhood:** By May 2016, 80% of neighborhood students will reach or exceed RCBM benchmark or advance one level toward benchmark on the spring RCBM. 70% of neighborhood students will attain proficient level on SAGE language assessment in 2016.

■ **Current literacy performance goals, SALTA:** By May of 2016, 80% of 1st and 2nd grade SALTA students will reach or exceed advanced proficiency level as measured by the SRI. 90% of 3rd-5th grade SALTA students will reach or exceed advanced proficiency level as measured by the SRI. By May of 2016, 85% of 1st-5th grade SALTA students will reach or exceed an average score of 90% on ELA CFAs.

■ **Amended literacy performance goals, SALTA:** By May of 2016, 80% of 1st and 2nd grade SALTA students will reach or exceed advanced proficiency level as measured by the SRI. 90% of 3rd-5th grade SALTA students will reach or exceed advanced proficiency level as measured by the SRI. In 2016, 100% of SALTA students will attain proficient level and 95% will attain highly proficient level on SAGE language assessment.

These amendments are needed because the SRI test is given three times yearly and, as Peruvian Park now has access to data from multiple SRIs, they are a measure of progress in ELA. CFAs also have the disadvantage of not adequately measuring progress because students are tested on different topics for different units.

Ms. Jewkes reported that, overall, our school goals over the past several years have become more ambitious than they were previously, as well as more focused on specific areas that need improvement. This approach seems to be paying off as shown in the school's state grade and ranking over time. In 2014, the school achieved an A grade but was at the bottom of that range, whereas this past spring (2015), the school achieved an A grade with a significantly higher score. In addition, the school's statewide rank has steadily gone up from 248th in 2012 to 31st statewide in spring 2015. She also noted that several of the amended goals are quite ambitious and may take a couple of years to achieve. Regarding the discipline data, she noted that the school's discipline system focuses on giving students positive reinforcement as well as discipline for behavior problems. She clarified the goals by noting that the goals for neighborhood kids involve reaching a specific benchmark regarding performance. Because nearly all SALTA students reach or exceed those grade-level benchmarks, their goals are "national norm-referenced" in that they are tied to percentiles. In other words, neighborhood students strive to meet a specific goal regardless of other students' performance, whereas SALTA students are expected to outperform nearly all of their peers.

ACTION: Jennifer Crane made a motion to approve the proposed amendments to school goals in STEM and literacy, with Gretchen Murray seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

Budget review:

Ms. Jewkes provided a breakdown on the budget for this year containing Peruvian Park's actual allocation, which for the 2015-16 school year is \$42,892. This is somewhat more than was expected, largely due to the school ending up with an approximately \$3,000 surplus at the end of last year due to inaccurate estimates of costs during the school year. Because our goal year to year is to spend all of our trust lands money each year (ending the year with no more than a 10% carryover), Ms. Jewkes said she is seeking help from district personnel in making a more accurate estimate of ongoing expenditures so that that does not happen again. In the meantime, she proposed that we amend the budget to increase allocations for substitute teachers (to \$2,000) and for supplies (to \$1,681). These increases will pay for a) substitutes for the fourth-grade and fifth grade team to participate in coaching with Mrs. Randazzo on unpacking science standards; and b) math supplies such as math manipulatives, which are sorely needed by many of Peruvian Park's newer teachers. The vast majority of the budget will continue to pay for three reading intervention aides and two math intervention aides. Those aides' hours may be increased slightly depending on student needs throughout the year, and all of that should come within the amended budget.

ACTION: Jennifer Crane made a motion to approve the proposed amendments to the 2015-16 budget, with Gretchen Murray seconding the motion. Melinda Morgan asked whether this action was the desire of all the teachers; Ms. Murray said it was and that all had been consulted. Leslie noted that, while the vast majority of the SCC budget goes to help below-grade-level students, the increased substitute and supplies budgets benefit the whole school, including SALTA and neighborhood students. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

Ms. Jewkes also asked the SCC to approve placing the school's allocation of cell-phone tower money into the principal's account. She mainly uses that money for two parent-teacher conference dinners and other treats and rewards for Peruvian Park teachers, and allocated district funds can't be used for that purpose.

ACTION: Leslie Jewkes made a motion, seconded by Katherine Manousakis, to approve placing those funds in the principal's account. The vote approving the motion was unanimous.

SCC/trust lands training

Stacey Kratz briefly reported on the SCC training put on by Canyons School District, which many SCC members had already attended. She said the training was very useful and practical and that there were still a number of opportunities to attend a training session through the end of October. Links to a list of those sessions had been previously sent to SCC members, but Stacey said that if any

SCC members need her to re-send the information, she could do so.

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 2015 in the Peruvian Park library.