

*DPMS SCC Meeting Notes - November 13, 2019, 3:00-4:36.*

**SCC Members Present:** Mary Anderson, Mike Neyman, Stephanie Fowler, Allyson Dunbar, Chad Smith, Krista Pippin (Vice Chair), Cindy Krueger, Holly Neibaur, Brandi Ripa, Kit Linkous, Megan Gebhard, Robin Perry, Kevin Rothert, Lindsey Moffat

**SCC Members Absent:** Heather White (Chair)

**Staff and Community Members Present:** Randall Seltz, Amanda Oaks, Wendy Smith, Jodi Roberts

**1. Welcome and Approve October 9 SCC Meeting Notes - Krista Pippin**

- a. *Ms. Fowler made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Ms. Pippin made a second.*
- b. *The motion passed unanimously.*

**2. Counselor Update - Megan Gebhard**

- a. Ms. Gebhard provided an update on the programs and activities the counselors have been running throughout the school. For a list of activities, please see the PowerPoint slides presented in the meeting.
  - i. October was National Bullying Prevention Month, so many of the activities were thematically connected to bullying prevention.
- b. Ms. Gebhard discussed how the Student Center promotes College and Career Readiness in each grade level.
- c. Ms. Gebhard listed some upcoming events, including the Club Thursday projects and activities.
- d. The window for 2nd semester schedule change request is open from January 7-8.
- e. Ms. Gebhard discussed how the student schedule board is built. Roughly 146 students (of 1620) did not get their top 4 elective choices. Of the 516 schedule change requests before school started, 25-30% of students requested to change their original requests.
- f. Ms. Neibaur shared feedback from students in her carpool. She said some students wanted to change electives because they believe the curriculum changed and a project they were looking forward to was no longer included in the class or a teacher they had hoped to get wasn't teaching the class.

**3. District Update - Mary Anderson**

- a. Ms. Anderson shared that she requested 4 portable classrooms for next year to alleviate some of the large class sizes in 7th and 8th grade core classes.
- b. Ms. Anderson shared the RISE assessment scores in math, ELA, and science from last year and how they compare to previous years. To see the scores discussed in the meeting, please review the PowerPoint shared at the meeting.
- c. Overall, the scores went up substantially. The test scores at Draper Park Middle School are higher than the surrounding Canyons middle schools.

**4. Review Last Year's 8th Grade Exit Survey - Mary Anderson**

- a. Ms. Anderson reviewed the results of the survey. To see all of the results, please review the PowerPoint for the meeting.
- b. Courage Cards and Courage Team Store were areas where students showed some disapproval.
- c. There was a conversation about how the team stores work. The teachers on the committee shared how the positive reinforcements work on their team.
- d. Passing period was another issue some students have brought up. Ms. Anderson increased the passing time by one minute for the current school year.
- e. The SCC discussed the results of the survey. Ms. Anderson said all three grades will have a chance to provide us with feedback at the end of the school year this year.

## 5. Review Last Year's Open-Ended Question Survey - Mary Anderson

- a. Ms. Anderson shared the results of the parent survey from the end of last school year.
- b. Ms. Linkous and Mr. Smith thanked Ms. Anderson for sharing the responses with the SCC.
- c. Ms. Neibaur asked when the survey will be sent out this year. Last year the timing of the survey may have inhibited many parents from responding to the survey.
- d. Ms. Anderson said she feels some of the survey items should be edited because some of them are outside the purview of the school to change (like school start time, etc.)
- e. Ms. Neibaur said the questions were carefully worded so that they didn't include subjects that were previously discussed, like the schedule change.
- f. Ms. Oaks shared how the Canyons Board of Education appreciates the feedback that surveys like this gather.
- g. Ms. Neibaur asked what percentage of students have educational release for first period. Ms. Gebhard said it is about 10% of the student population.
- h. Ms. Neibaur said the start time is particularly difficult for families who live on South Mountain and have a farther distance to travel to the school or bus, which takes more time.
- i. Mr. Neyman summarized the discussion by saying that he thinks it is important for us to gather information from the school community about issues pertinent to them. This feedback should be shared with the school board so they can advocate for DPMS.
- j. Ms. Perry asked about the possibility of sending out a one question survey to the community asking about the most important issues.
- k. Ms. Moffat and Ms. Gebhard clarified the question about school start time.
- l. Ms. Anderson clarified that school start time could be one of the top 3 issues the SCC chooses to explore a resolution for.
- m. Ms. Gebhard and Ms. Fowler commented on the value of doing a parent survey every other year to allow for the school to reflect on the feedback and implement fixes.
- n. Mr. Smith said that there are many companies are thrilled to get a 10% response rate.
- o. Ms. Anderson said after discussing the survey results with staff at the Canyons Research and Assessment department, a 10% response rate is considered very low.
- p. Ms. Neibaur made a motion that the school sends out a parent survey every other year around March after the second student-led conferences. Ms. Gebhard made a second to the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- q. Ms. Linkous asked if there was a way Ms. Anderson could publish a statement on the SCC website about how this survey is sent out every other year.
- r. Ms. Gebhard asked if there was a way the school could send out a postcard mailer reminding families to take the survey and reach families who may not have internet access.
- s. There was a discussion about the logistics of reaching every family in the DPMS community.
- t. Ms. Anderson said she wondered if it is possible to add a question on the registration menu to determine which families do not have internet or computer access at home. This has to go through the district. Many committee members commented that the registration menu already asks about internet and technology access at home.

## 6. School Climate, Safety, Cell Phone and Digital Citizenship Report - Krista Pippin

- a. Ms. Neibaur asked the committee to revisit this topic after the survey results were shared and discussed. The committee moved on to discuss the survey results and then returned to this agenda item.
- b. Ms. Oaks was asked to clarify if the committee was tasked with determining a school safety issue or a digital citizenship focus. Ms. Oaks said the Canyons Board of Education is interested in gathering data and feedback on both of these issues.
- c. Based on the discussion from the Open-Ended Questions, school start time was determined to be a priority concern.
- d. Ms. Ripa shared a list of items that were discussed at the last meeting. These items are included in the meeting notes from the last meeting.

- e. Ms. Krueger said she is concerned about a single point of entry to the building. She feels that the biggest safety concern is that our school has so many different sets of doors and we should prioritize the main office doors as the main point of entry.
  - i. Excluding the main office entrance, all outside doors at DPMS are locked at 7:30.
- f. Developing a community survey to guide the SCC in determining the top 5 concerns was discussed.
- g. Ms. Gebhard suggested we narrow down the list to five items as an SCC before we send the survey out to the community.
- h. Ms. Neibaur and Mr. Smith added improving student positive reinforcements to the list of items to discuss (in response to the 8th grade exit survey that showed that this is a weakness according to last year's 8th grade students).
- i. The SCC discussed the procedure for choosing the top 5. Ms. Neibaur said she will help write the items for the survey.
- j. Ms. Ripa made a motion to survey the SCC about their top school safety and climate concerns, narrow down the list, and then send out a parent survey. Mr. Neyman made the second. The motion passed unanimously.**
- k. Ms. Moffatt asked each staff member on SCC to share the top 3 issues they feel should be addressed.

## **7. Suggestion Box - Chad Smith**

- a. In an effort to offer patrons more opportunities to provide feedback about the school and the various programs, Mr. Smith suggested we have a feedback form posted on the DPMS website.
- b. Mr. Smith said we should be clear about what type of feedback we are looking for and what is not appropriate for this venue.
- c. Mr. Smith said we could address the responses as they come in, so long as the patrons respected the guidelines.
- d. Ms. Perry asked how the suggestion form would be different than parents contacting the SCC members directly through the emails posted on the school website. She also said parents can already contact SCC members and school administration to provide feedback through email. The SCC is an open platform and anything that might be private should likely be addressed by school staff, not the SCC.
- e. Mr. Smith said he hasn't received a lot of feedback from the email. He wants to go beyond the legally required posted information and foster an environment where parents feel their feedback is welcomed and appreciated.
- f. Ms. Anderson said we could send out the SCC agendas in advance and allow parents to reply back to us with feedback.
- g. Ms. Roberts said anonymous responses are often difficult to address.
- h. Mr. Smith and Ms. Neibaur recognized the power of anonymous responses in getting more authentic feedback. People will share more authentic feedback if they feel it is done in an anonymous forum.
- i. Mr. Smith said he wants to emphasize that the feedback we collect can also be positive.
- j. Ms. Perry made a motion to have Mary send an email version of the agenda and solicit feedback on the items being discussed or any other general feedback one week before the meeting. Ms. Ripa second. The motion passes unanimously.**

## **8. Next Meeting Agenda Items:**

- a. Cell Phone Survey
- b. SNAP Plan
- c. Community Feedback
- d. Top 5 Climate Concerns

- 9. Ms. Pippin made a motion to end the meeting. Ms. Anderson made a second to the motion. The vote was unanimous.**  
Meeting Adjourned at 4:36.

Meeting notes approved at January 8, 2020 SCC Meeting.