

***DPMS SCC Meeting Notes - September 15, 2021, 3:00-4:30.***

**SCC Members Present:** Chip Watts, Nate Ricks, Terri Francis, Zach Giddings, Janene Day, Emily Ord, Megan Gebhard, Casey Ryan, Cynthia Lloyd, Marianne Barrowes, Vanessa Croshaw, Suzanne Quick, Shandra Brown, Kerstin Olcott

**SCC Members Absent:** Jen Morris (excused)

**Staff and Community Members Present:** Randall Seltz, Kristana Price, Mark Mitchell, Rick Robins, Susan Edwards, Cindy Hansen

1. Welcome and Introductions - Dr. Watts
  - a. Dr. Watts welcomed everyone and started the meeting by giving the council a prompt to get to know each other.
2. Counselor's Corner Update and Data Project Results - Megan Gebhard
  - a. Ms. Gebhard introduced the staff members in the Student Center.
  - b. Ms. Gebhard discussed the initiatives the counselors have launched during September.
    - i. CCA lessons for 6th grade
    - ii. Mini CCR's for 7th grade
    - iii. High School Transition Lessons for 8th grade
    - iv. Club Thursday after school activities for all students
3. Approval of May 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes - Marianne Barrowes
  - a. ***Ms. Barrowes made a motion to approve the minutes from the [previous year] May 19 meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of approving the notes.***
4. Elect a Chair - Marianne Barrowes
  - a. Dr. Watts nominated Marianne Barrowes for chair. Mr. Giddings made the second.
  - b. Ms. Crowshaw nominated Suzanne Quick. Ms. Barrowes made the second.
  - c. Voting
    - i. Suzanne, Dr. Watts, Megan, Nate, Emily, Cynthia, Shandra, Janine voted for Marianne.
    - ii. Vanessa, Casey, Zach, Marianne, Kerstin voted for Suzanne.
    - iii. ***Marianne was elected to the position of SCC Chair.***
5. Elect a Vice Chair - Marianne Barrowes
  - a. Janine Day nominated herself for vice chair. Ms. Francis made the second.
  - b. The voting was unanimous in favor of Janine.
  - c. ***Janine Day was elected to the position of SCC Vice Chair.***
6. Elect a Secretary - Marianne Barrowes
  - a. Vanessa Crowshaw nominated Randall Seltz. Ms. Gebhard made the second.
  - b. The voting was unanimous in favor of Mr. Seltz.
  - c. ***Randall Seltz was elected to be the SCC Secretary.***
7. Set a Meeting Schedule - Marianne Barrowes
  - a. The council discussed adjusting the meeting start time from 3:00 to 2:45, and keeping the meetings on the third Wednesday of every month.
  - b. ***The council unanimously agreed to adjust the start time to 2:45.***
8. District SCC Training - Marianne Barrowes
  - a. Susan Edwards discussed the required SCC trainings and a date for a newly scheduled make-up training if any members have missed the previous opportunities.

9. Cell Phone Policy Update - Emily Ord

- a. Ms. Ord said she is proud of DPMS's new cell phone policy where students are not using cell phones in the hallways or at lunch.
- b. Tanner Clark visited DPMS and held 3 assemblies for students and a parent night that was broadcast online.
- c. Ms. Ord read a comment that she received from a parent whose student attended the assembly at school.
- d. Ms. Ord thanked Dr. Watts for listening to the parents and for making efforts to help implement the new policy.
- e. Dr. Watts discussed how implementing the new policy has gone. He noted that the implementation has yielded positive results.
- f. Ms. Day provided some feedback about her son's experience with the new policy regarding cell phones.
- g. Ms. Ryan discussed her experience implementing the new cell phone policy. She said she sees about 10 cell phones in between classes every period every day.
- h. Mr. Giddings said the 6th grade students seem to be doing better than the 7th and 8th graders. The older students seem to be struggling with the new policy.
- i. Ms. Quick said when she has substituted at DPMS she has asked students to put their phones away and they have complied.
- j. Ms. Ord asked if Student Government could help reinforce the new policy with students.
- k. Mr. Mitchell said elections for Student Government are forthcoming.
- l. Dr. Watts said that the Student Government students from last year helped promote the policy at the end of the last school year.

10. Community Engagement Survey Update - Vanessa Croshaw

- a. Ms. Croshaw discussed her experience with the educational consultants hired by the school district and the Community Engagement Survey they created in an effort to solicit feedback from Canyons School District patrons. Ms. Croshaw promoted the survey to families she knows and encouraged them to participate.

11. Second Step Curriculum Status - Dr. Watts

- a. Dr. Watts said he recently sent an email to the community updating them on the status of the Second Step curriculum at DPMS.
- b. The district has removed the hold on the curriculum. Dr. Watts said he didn't feel that was the best direction for DPMS to head in, so we're continuing to hold before moving forward with teaching the curriculum.
- c. Dr. Watts has decided to create a Second Steps Parent Advisory Committee to review the curriculum and make recommendations regarding the curriculum to the school and district.
- d. Dr. Watts reiterated that parents may still opt their children out of participating in the Second Steps lessons regardless of the findings or work of the committee.
- e. Ms. Ord asked how parents are appointed to the DPMS Second Step Advisory Committee.
- f. Ms. Barrowes said she and the PTSA President are leading the committee and that parents interested in volunteering should reach out to her.
- g. Ms. Lloyd asked Dr. Watts what would happen if a large number of students at DPMS were opted out of Second Steps. Dr. Watts said there is no set number that would stop the implementation.

12. Review Previous Year TSSP and Land Trust Plan - Dr. Watts

- a. Dr. Watts read the overarching TSSP Goal: Increase student learning as shown by RISE proficiency levels and end of unit assessments in math, science, and writing.
- b. Dr. Watts reviewed ELA, math, and science RISE data from previous school years that shows where students are achieving right now. Dr. Watts shared data where students in demographic subgroups achieved.
- c. The TSSP includes professional learning opportunities and collaboration days for teachers to continue to address the unfinished learning needs in our school community.
- d. Dr. Watts discussed the instructional aides and supports that DPMS has used the funding to put in place.

- e. Mr. Seltz said that in preparing data for the Building Leadership Team, he analyzed Reading Inventory and Math Inventory scores from the beginning of last year to the end of last year and our students experienced significant growth by those metrics.

### 13. Q&A with Dr. Robins

- a. Dr. Robins reiterated his support for Dr. Watts.
- b. Dr. Robins said he hopes that people can find kindness and respect in all of the conversations that are happening about how to move forward with supporting our students at DPMS.
- c. Dr. Robins said it is important to find a way forward together. He said the door is always open to visit with parents and patrons about items that they are concerned about.
- d. Ms. Day asked Dr. Robins how the listening tour sessions have gone. He said they've been going well and have focused on a lot of the topical issues of the day. He hopes to continue to gather feedback on how we can work together to improve the district.
- e. Ms. Croshaw asked if Dr. Robins considered having a listening tour session during the day. He said they did a few town halls over Zoom last year and they will continue to consider other ways to connect with patrons.
- f. Ms. Brown shared a concern about Second Steps and being able to learn more about what is being taught so she can follow up with her students at home about the topics they learned about in school.
  - i. Dr. Robins said the curriculum for the elementary schools is in a binder, not an adaptive digital curriculum. For middle school, the district and school teams are reviewing the curriculum and making recommendations back to the district about which units are appropriate and which are not.
- g. Ms. Ord asked if social emotional learning is mandated from the state or federal government.
  - i. Dr. Robins said there are different parts of state code that mandate social emotional learning. Second Step is the vendor that our Canyons School District Board of Education approved. Ms. Hansen said when she was principal at Mount Jordan Middle School, they implemented Second Steps. The curriculum was the recommended vendor from several focus groups. Dr. Robins said the important thing to do is to stay focused on the curriculum and teach the skills that students need. It's important to teach students how to regulate their emotions, how to set goals, and how to be empathetic to others. Ms. Ord asked if there was a way to change the curriculum vendor to another provider. Dr. Robins said he wasn't sure how long the contract with Second Steps lasts. Dr. Watts said he has seen where Second Steps has changed some of the images based on feedback from schools and parents. Dr. Robins said there were some images that he was uncomfortable with in the first video. Ms. Brown said there are a lot of concepts that she feels are important to teach students. She said the updated videos are what she finds objectionable. She said she feels that the videos teach students to be dependent upon their identity instead of their character. Ms. Brown shared a specific example about how the curriculum addresses bullying and harassment.

### 14. Closing Items

- a. Future Agenda Items
  - i. 6th Grade Honors ELA and Math - Cynthia Lloyd and Dr. Watts
  - ii. Smart Pass App - Casey Ryan
  - iii. RI/MI Growth Data - Randall Seltz and Kristana Price
  - iv. Later Start Time - Vanessa Croshaw

### 15. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

- a. *Ms. Day made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Croshaw made a second. The motion passed unanimously.*

*These meeting notes were approved at the October 20, 2021 meeting.*