DPMS School Community Council Minutes

Date: 10/4/2023  
Location: DPMS Media Center  
Time: 3:15pm

School Community Council Members

Parent Members Present
- Janene Day, Chair
- Dave Cook, Note-Taker
- Angi Stallings
- Emily Ord
- Cami Shipp
- Nancy Nichols
- Alicia Cottle
- Jenny Boyack

Staff Members Present
- Dr. Chip Watts (Principal)
- Jared Collette
- Kimberly Oldroyd
- Edie Goodrich

Parent Members Not Present
- Shandra Brown, Vice Chair

Staff Members Not Present
- Nancy Butler
- Brittani Gourley

Invited Guests
- Scot McCombs - CSD Director of IT
- Cynthia Hansen - CSD Director of Middle Schools
- Angie McFarland - Parent

Other Attendees
- Amanda Oaks, CSD Board Member
- Jessica Smith
- Jenn Hall
- Kait Steele
- Mary Simon
- Mandi Kitchen
- Krista Pippin
- Liz Jenkins
- Kelly Harward
- Erin Longacre
- Roy Nichols

Business Items:
Meeting Started: 3:15pm

1. Welcome  
   Dr. Chip Watts

2. Approval of 9/13 minutes  
   Janene Day
a. https://docs.google.com/document/d/167i7ack1iMEz5mqxT-nyGk-1eyolfRqTuTfaZ
   YyVZtk/edit?usp=share_link
   Motion to approve: Cami Shipp
   Second: Janene Day
   Vote: Unanimous

3. School Safety
   Mark Mitchell
   a. SCC members were encouraged last meeting to review the Canyons District
      School Safety Report: https://www.canyonsdistrict.org/safe-schools/
   b. Mr. Mitchell discussed with the SCC issues to be addressed in the School Safety
      plan. SCC will discuss the following two areas for our School Safety plan next
      meeting:
         i. Unstructured Time (passing in the hall, lunch, etc.)
         ii. Internet

4. Digital Citizenship
   Jennifer Hall
   a. Ms. Hall is the Digital Citizenship Coordinator for DPMS.
   b. White Ribbon Week will be held in January in coordination with PTSA.
   c. Ms. Hall will coordinate how “Preferred messages on Digital Citizenship” are
      distributed to parents.
   d. The school will teach 3 digital citizenship lessons to all students. The lessons will
      be included in Thrive Time lessons.
   e. SCC will vote via email on which of two presentations will be given to the
      Teachers at the school: (1) Integration of Digital Citizenship into Thrive Time, or
      (2) Artificial Intelligence. The presentation will be done near the end of October.
   f. More information from the district can be found at:
      https://www.canyonsdistrict.org/scc/digital-citizenship/

5. TSSP and Land Trust
   Dr. Chip Watts
   a. Dr. Watts provided an update on the TSSP and Land Trust plans. He noted that
      there are still 2 aide positions to be filled, but other positions funded by TSSP and
      Land Trust plans have been filled.
   b. The TSSP and Land Trust plan allocated funds to Special Education staff to
      provide additional focus to students with IEPs and 504s. These efforts are
      underway.
   c. The TSSP and Land Trust plan allocated funds for student recognition. Dr. Watts
      noted that the School Store is up and running, and Viking of the Month and
      Quarter programs are also working well.
   d. The TSSP and Land Trust plan allocated funds for Club Thursdays. The
      program is averaging 80-100 students/week. For more information on the
      program, visit: http://dpmsstudentcenter.weebly.com/
Discussion Items:

1. School Update

   Chip Watts

   Presentation Link:
   https://drive.google.com/file/d/11AHK2bvOzM_IqO2nStt2Jsql0F6Dryc/view?usp=share_link

   a. Dr. Watts presented data on Chromebook use at Draper Park Middle School
      i. 83.3% of classes are using chromebooks - 30 minutes or less
      ii. Homework: 76.6% of teachers report giving homework less than 2x/week; 93% said homework should be less than 20 minutes
      iii. Off task on Chromebooks: 85% of teachers reported their student is off task “sometimes or less”
      iv. Lanschool (monitoring software teachers use to see what students are doing on Chromebooks and can restrict where they go) in class: 50% of teachers use Lanschool most or all of the time. Our school can improve in this area. Teachers are not required to use Lanschool. Dr. Watts expects teachers to monitor what is happening on Chromebooks - walking around and/or Lanschool
   v. Chromebook Sweep of School (Random check in all halls/classes)
      1. Half of classes had Chromebooks out and half did not have Chromebooks out
      2. If Chromebook was out, the percentage of class on Chromebook: 50.8% had most of class on Chromebook
      3. Students off task (gaming, wrong page, etc.) 75% of the time students were not off task
      4. Teacher using Lanschool - 71.4% of time teacher was not using Lanschool (Doesn't mean they are not up and walking around the classroom)
      5. How many minutes on Chromebook this period? 38.1% say <10 minutes; 30.2% said <10-20 minutes; 12.7% using 30-40 minutes
      6. Teachers opinions of using Chromebooks:
         a. Chromebooks allow us to teach students how to navigate resources outside of paper copies
         b. Should be used to support learning, but not used to explicitly teach all lessons
         c. Moderation should be use
         d. Chromebooks align with state and district standards
         e. Phones are way worse than Chromebooks
         f. Students need practice utilizing and operating technology for good.
         g. Tech skills (including Canvas) are required for high school and college
         h. Adaptive software targets specific learning gaps and focuses on key skills
i. Translation and language services available on Chromebooks are very helpful for students.

7. Dr. Watts invited parents/community members to come and see what is happening in the classrooms. Please reach out to Dr. Watts.

vi. Family Connections Link for CSD:
https://www.canyonsdistrict.org/familyconnections/

Dr Watts shared information from this document:

2. “Glow Kids” Discussion

   a. Kelly Harward noted he spends time monitoring and controlling use of technology. He feels that controlling use of school-issued Chromebooks is difficult without parental controls. He would like there to be more tools for parents to use to control Chromebook usage.

   b. Emily Ord read a statement about children’s use of school-issued Chromebooks.

      i. Emily referenced the book - Glow Kids: How Screen Addiction Is Hijacking Our Kids - and How to Break the Trance by Nicholas Kardaras

      ii. Emily referenced the following Utah State Code - 53G-6-803 Parental Right to Academic Accommodations
https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title53G/Chapter6/C53G-6-S803_2020051220200512.pdf

      iii. Interested parties may contact Emily Ord for the information she shared. Email address: ordemily@gmail.com

   c. Canyons District Parents Concerned about Chromebooks GroupMe Group has been started. Anyone can join.

      i. https://web.groupme.com/join_group/96013318/WbmyHJoe

   d. Angie McFarland presented to the SCC. She is a parent of a current 6th grader at Draper Park Middle School.

      i. Angie shared documents regarding Chromebooks and getting around filters, parent comments regarding Chromebook usage and statistics.
Interested parties may contact Angie McFarland for the documents. Email address: angmcfarland@gmail.com

ii. Angie discussed restriction levels on Chromebooks and her personal experience with her student’s workaround filters and restrictions and creating a secret gmail account
   1. She reported that when student uses Proxy - can’t see history
   2. She discussed that students are not legally able to sign contracts
   3. She states that limited access is the answer not filters
   4. Recommended Solutions from Angie
      a. Monitor screen time
      b. Teacher’s using too much screen time - reprimanded
      c. Paper and pencil options for parents and students who chose to use them
      d. Parents need to know how to check user history, username and password. Encourage parents to check on own student - It was mentioned that username and password information is available on Skyward
      e. Computers kept at school
      f. Highest Restriction - default at middle school
      g. Homework should be pen and paper
      h. Computer usage at school should be a minimum - project teacher’s screen instead of having each student be on their chromebook
      i. In-person instructional teaching
      j. Consent to using computers every year
      k. Should be required - links embedded in canvas
      l. No pinterest, no linkedin,

5. Angie stated that many, many parents are having the same difficulties and concerns

6. Emily suggested that parents looking for technology look into Canyons Online
   a. Parent Comment - Canyons Online is being taught by college students in Arizona.

7. Canyons Virtual Academy:
   [https://canyonsvirtualacademy.canyonsdistrict.org/](https://canyonsvirtualacademy.canyonsdistrict.org/)
   Cynthia Hansen stated that Middle School is taught by real Middle School teachers.

   e. Important Links
   District Filtering Request Form: [http://studentfilter.canyonsdistrict.org/](http://studentfilter.canyonsdistrict.org/)
   District Web Filtering Page:
f. Scott McCombs stated the students at CSD schools are his priority and he has no intentions to harm children. He stated that there are limitations and we need to discuss them and find solutions.
   i. Responsibilities come back to the adults and the students learning how to be safe.
   ii. Mr. McCombs reports that 11 students (parents) in the district have requested changes in restrictions
   iii. Mr. McCombs reports he cannot see usage time for students.
   iv. It was requested that we restrict Pinterest and LinkedIn
   v. Mr. McCombs states we are CIPA compliant

g. Highest Restriction Level
   i. Question asked by many parents - Why can’t the highest restriction be the default restriction?
   ii. Mr. McCombs stated that filtering is difficult and complex. He discussed encryption and filters. When filters hit the encryption the filter has to decrypt. It is very intensive to decrypt.
   iii. Teachers can use Lanschool and can turn off student’s screen. Teachers stated that they need more training on Lanschool.
   iv. Dr. Watts stated he wants to see a decrease in the passive, learning screen time at DPMS.

3. Next Steps/Action Items
   a. Request that Pinterest and LinkedIn be blocked at DPMS
   b. Review parent suggestions per comments that were presented
   c. Continue to collect data on Chromebook use
   d. Focus groups with students on Chromebook use

Meeting Ended: 5:50

Upcoming Meetings:
SCC Meetings are held the Second Wednesday of every month in the Media Center at 3:15pm:
11/08; 12/13; 01/10; 02/14; 03/13; 04/10; 05/08