

Minutes of February 13, 2008 - Orem Elementary School Community Council meeting

Date: February 13, 2008---Time: 11:15 am---Room 205 Orem Elementary School

Present at meeting:

Faculty:

Brad Davies-Principal
Jon Mohlman-Vice Chair
Heather Stewart

Parents:

Ada Wilson-Chair
Teresa Gorritti
Mindy Harmon-Secretary
Shari Gingras
Jenna Wood

Absent: Emilia Whitehead, Faculty

Visitors from OES:

Marsi Vandebos
Mary Harper

Visitor from Utah State Office of Education:

Bruce Hinckley

Visitors from Alpine School District: Rhonda Bromley

Faculty, parents and visitors introduced themselves.

Mindy Harmon read the previous minutes from the SCC meeting on January 16, 2008. Jenna Wood approved minutes. Jon Mohlman 2nd the motion.

Bruce Hinckley from the Utah State Office of Education spoke with the SCC. He told us that 10% of the schools in Utah were visited by the USOE. Orem Elementary was randomly selected for this visit. He proceeded to ask the SCC the following questions in relation to how our SCC was running.

1. Were parents appointed or voted on? Voted
2. Were the employees voted or appointed? Voted
3. Is there two week prior notice of SCC meeting? Yes
4. Are the minutes available to view in the school front office? No
*He told us to leave them in the office so anyone could have access to them.
5. Is the agenda on the front door? Yes
6. Is the agenda on the principal's door? No
7. Is there a regular scheduled meeting? Yes
8. Are there other methods to notify members of the community of meetings? Yes, online, newsletter, school marquee
9. Has anyone told SCC how to spend the money? No
10. Have you shown the Trustlands DVD? Yes
11. Regarding the Trustlands web site, is there anything that can be done to improve it? Suggestions? None
12. Do you have stickers and stamps to show what has been purchased by Trustlands? Legislature requires stamps or stickers on books or equipment.
13. Do you as a Community Council have any concerns?

Ada Wilson had the following concerns: She is worried about charter schools equity funding and how this is going to affect us at OES. Is there a place for rewarding teachers, merit pay, or

some other way for good teachers to be rewarded. Committee in Alpine District is working on that.

Jenna Wood had the following concerns about the Kindergarten at OES. She talked about the Kindergartens not having enough students for another class, but the current classes still has too many students, but not enough to have an additional teacher. What can be done about this?

Teresa had the following concerns: What is the district doing for the ELL? She was told they were aware of the needs of all the students in our district, but it all comes down to money and funding for what is available.

Overview and 2007-2008 Plan: Ada Wilson

Ada handed out a final draft copy of the OES SCC action calendar. This shows our month-to-month agenda of what we plan to accomplish as a SCC.

Principle Brad Davies discussed the OES SCC budget for 2007-2008. Everyone was given a copy of this. SOAR money has been reallocated for science and other books. He commented that the OES change to modified extended day has been very helpful to all involved. We were told that we can change our "plan" mid-year. However, it needs to be approved by the Alpine School District personnel that supervise this program.

Bruce Hinckley discussed the Trustlands investment strategy. There is still growth in the investments but not the same growth that has been experienced in previous years due to the slowdown in the stock market in general. As a committee, we need to be aware of the funding and make sure that it is there for the future generations.

Jon Molman gave us a teacher report on how Trustland funding affect the classroom. He remarked that Trustland aides and tutors were a great benefit to the classes. He also expressed appreciation for the funding for basic classroom supplies, particularly classroom libraries. Teachers have ongoing needs and the Trustland funds are a great help.

As a SCC how can we make our money go further? We need to focus on writing grants, encouraging volunteerism, matching donations, and sponsorships.

Mary Harper and Marsi Vandebos, paid aides at OES, reported on their work as a STAR tutor and classroom aide, respectively.

Marsi Vandebos is working with 3rd - 6th grade students between 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm. She is helping 4-5 teachers with their Math students. She works with small groups and also with individuals. She is impressed with the kids that she is helping. She feels that the students need someone to stay focused on their work.

Mary Harper is a STAR reading tutor helping Tier 2 students. She and another volunteer are making a significant difference in the reading level of the students they work with.

A copy of the Faculty Survey was presented by Ada Wilson. It was approved for distribution through Mr. Davies ASAP.

Research information gathered by OES SCC members about the School LAND Trust Plans of other high-performing elementary schools in the district were presented and reviewed by council.

Next Meeting: Wednesday March 12, 2008 11:15 am OES Room 205
Focus: Final Draft of 2008-2009 Plan and Planning for Elections of New SCC members in April.