

Westlake High School
SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, December 1, 2008 – 1:00pm
Bud Mahas Construction Trailer @ Westlake High School

Attending: Todd Abney, Natalie Clark, Stephanie Cottam, John Festin, Tani Ireland, Fred Openshaw, Brady Rowley, Ryan Tyson, Julie Wallace

Absent: Julie Barnum, Laura Giles, Cassie Gross

Visitors: Mike Cottam, Tim Jones

Chairman, John Festin welcomed the group to the meeting. Natalie Clark read the November minutes. The minutes were voted on and approved. A follow-up item was added to the minutes. Mr. Openshaw wanted to let the members know that the teams who are in Region VII have changed since our last SCC meeting. The High School Athletic Association has added Provo to our region.

9th Grade Updates—Westlake will run its own 9th grade basketball team. A 9th grade student will have to tryout for either the 9th grade or the high school team. They can't do both. The 9th grade from Westlake and the 9th grade at Willowcreek will get together 4-5 times throughout the year for activities.

History of Thor—Council members thought it would be a good idea to explain the Thor caricature some place on Westlake's web page. We will work on trying to link an explanation on the web page.

Driver's Ed Discussion—Council members were given the opportunity to voice questions or concerns. The overall feedback from the community was they thought it was a great idea to take Driver's Ed out of the regular classroom time and offer it before or after school or on Saturday's. The only negative feedback was the transportation issue for parents. Parents will be responsible to get their student to and/or from the classes. It is a one year pilot program. The motion to take Driver's Ed out of the regular classroom day and move it to before or after school or on Saturdays was voted on and approved.

Becoming a Master Student Discussion—"Becoming a Master Student" is a course that Westlake is looking into offering, in place of Driver's Ed, for our sophomore class. Currently, this course is taught at UVU and is a semester class. Statistics show that students who take this class are more prepared for college. It teaches students how to become a master student through memorization, reading, and test taking. It helps students learn what their strengths and weaknesses are in becoming a successful student. Stephanie Cottam will follow-up on this item with more information at our next meeting.

SCC Members on Special Assignments—Communication between community and school is important. Therefore, it is questioned for the need to have members represent different aspects of various programs going on in the community. This item was open for discussion. All members agreed that it is a good thing. Mr. Openshaw feels that as city sports programs grow, it would be a good idea to have Westlake coaches involved in the city's little league programs. We

want to work together for the betterment of the students. The SCC members who stepped forward to represent Westlake:

Ryan Tyson

Booster Club Representative

Todd Abney

Saratoga Springs Youth Football League

These representatives will attend their monthly meetings to bridge the communication gap. As more programs arise, SCC members will have a chance to get involved with those programs.

Senior Yearbook Pictures—Attire for Senior Yearbook Pictures was a discussion item for this meeting. Mr. Openshaw proposed to have the seniors at Westlake have their picture taken in a tux for boys and a fancy gown/drape for the girls. He wants to set standards high and have a “classy” look for the graduating class. All the other picture options will still be available but the picture for the yearbook would have to be the uniformed look. Mr. Openshaw wanted the council members to go back to their communities and get the overall feelings on this issue. What are the expectations in the community? This will be an action item at our next meeting.

Questions from members—Stephanie Cottam asked what information would be helpful to be given at the registration assemblies. The council members stated they would be interested in ACT testing information, NCAA information, graduation requirements and concurrent enrollment information. One member asked if Westlake is using Class Choice for registration this year. The answer is no, not this year. The reason is because Alpine School District is changing student programs. Westlake will pilot the new system for all secondary schools in the district. Therefore, to learn one more new program right now would be too much. We will look at it for next year. Another question, when does a student have to decide which high school they will attend. Mr. Openshaw explained that in January, students will have to claim a “soft declaration”. If a student claims they want to stay at Lehi, Lehi High will activate their Class Choice account so they can register. Then, roughly about March or April, students will have to be a little more firm on their decision. Students will have options until one of the following is done:

1. A student regularly attends a camp with a sport
2. A student tries out for a sport
3. A student attends the first day of school at one school or the other

One member asked about lunches and how many lunches there will be. The answer to that question is one. Westlake will have one lunch and it will be an open campus lunch. Will Westlake have Walkaway’s? Mr. Openshaw explained yes. Westlake will have a form of Walkaway’s. He doesn’t know what they will be called, but the curriculum will be standard driven. We will also offer as many concurrent enrollment and AP offerings as Lehi High. We don’t want students miss anything through the transition.

Faculty Update—

Christian Adkinson

Cheer Advisor

Whitney Byrd

Head Cheer Coach

Don Bastian

Physical Science Chair

Adam Brown

Head Girls Soccer Coach

Chris Cooper

Head Baseball Coach

Darrin Edwards

Media Coordinator

Andrew Fresques

Head Track Coach

Suzanne Hadfield

FFA Advisor

Maureen Hatch

Choir Director

Janica Hayes

Dance Advisor

Kim Jex

Head Softball Coach

Scott Mansfield
Amy Morrey
Deborah Parrish
Steve Revelli
Dave Robinson
Cheryl Rogers
Weldon Wardle
Charlyn Webster

Foreign Language Chair/Debate
Drama/Performing Arts Chair
Head Volleyball Coach
Life Science Chair
Head Boys Basketball Coach
English Chair
Head Girls Basketball Coach
Drill Team Coach

In January, the split from Lehi High will be the next faculty members hired at Westlake. The remaining teaching jobs will be posted in the spring.

Student Assemblies—This Wednesday, December 3rd, we will be presenting an assembly to the 8th and 9th grade students at Willowcreek Middle School. On Wednesday, December 10th, we will be doing the same assembly at Lehi High for 10th and 11th grade students. The purpose of the assemblies are to get the students excited about Westlake and to help them bring to life the things taking place in preparation for opening in August, (i.e., faculty members, registration dates, and general information). Mr. Openshaw will report on the assemblies at our next meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

January 5, 2009

1:00pm

District Office Basement Conference Room

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

“Becoming a Master Student”—more information

Stephanie Cottam

Action Item—Senior Yearbook Pictures—Formal or Not

Faculty Update

Student Assemblies—How did they go?