

Westlake High School
SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 5, 2015 – 5:00pm
WHS Front Conference Room

Attending: Audrey Barton, Lynne Benham, Janet Cherrington, Natalie Clark, DJ Conger, Angela Duke, Nicolette Fike, Wendy Ford, Ruth Gowans, Jared Huff, Caleb Miller, Trevor Schramm, Aprill Triggs, Gary Twitchell, Angela Webb

Absent: Kerrienne Sabey

Lynne Benham welcomed the group to November meeting. The minutes from the September meeting were read and approved.

Civics Test Update

- As of 11/5/15, only 11% has taken/passed the Civics test.
- This is something students can complete at home. A caller and email has gone out to the senior class to inform them of the urgency with this matter.
- If parents don't know whether or not their student has taken/passed the test, they can view it on Skyward. It will show up in the summary—where all the other test scores are kept.
- We will be sending the email and caller several times so parents and students are aware of the consequences of not passing the test, which is not graduating.
- A suggestion is to have the teachers do a group email to their classes through Skyward. This will allow parents to see the announcement when they log into Skyward.
- Caleb Miller will address this at the cap and gown assembly on 11/10/15 to all the seniors who attend.
- Natalie Clark will make posters to hang in all of the classrooms and on bulletin boards.
- Student Council will post on the 2016 Twitter Page.
- Jared Huff will contact English 12 teachers to have them discuss it in each class they teach.
- We need to make a fervent effort to educate and make seniors aware of this test as soon as possible.

Trustland Report

- Gary handed out a copy of the 2014-15 Trustlands budget and how the money was spent. The Stakeholder Report was also handed out to the council. Trustlands greatly impacted our successes last year!

Failing Grades Make-Up

- Westlake is changing how long students can make up failing grades.
- If a student failed a class during 1st term, he/she will have until the 2nd week of third term to make the failing grade up—that is 11 weeks, which should be plenty of time.
- If students fail during 2nd, 3rd or 4th term, they will only have two weeks to make up the F.
- After the time frames listed above and an F still needs to be made up, students will have to do packets, etc. to make up the F.
- Teachers must communicate to the parent if their student is failing. An F cannot be given without that communication.
- The school overall will communicate this as much as we can to parents.
- The overall response to this change has been welcoming.

Back to School Night/Open House

- The overall consensus of teachers, parents and students is they liked the Open House prior to 2016-17 school year starting.
- They are requesting it to be on the Thursday before school starts.
- Teachers will be in their classrooms. Clubs and tours will be given. Finance and all offices will be open for parents to take care of fees and/or concerns.
- There will not be a Parent/Teacher Conference in September of 2016. The first PTC will be November of 2016.
- It will be a general orientation of Westlake.

Student Excursions—Cap Limit

- The administration is going to be setting a cap on the amount of money that can be spent every 3 years for student excursions.
- We need to decide what that cap limit should be.
- The council asked Mr. Twitchell to compile a list of amounts that have been spent on excursions.
- Mr. Twitchell will bring the hi/low of student excursions.
- The council also wanted this topic to be addressed every three years.

Parking

- Parking is an issue at Westlake.
- Students and faculty need to park where they are supposed to. If everyone will do that, then the visitor slots would open up to allow for those who need to run in for check-out purposes.
- Tickets are being issued more than before. This will be communicated through the website.
- Other ways we can help this situation--expand the number of visitor spots, have a 30 minute/1 hour notification, open the driving range and have teachers park in the faculty spots—not student spots.

2016-17 Anticipated Growth

- The projected growth for 2016-17 is 415 more students than what we have now. This number is what we know is coming to us—this does not include move-in's.
- Westlake will be pushing 2900 students
- Where are we going to put them? Some ideas include a stagger start (early-bird/late gator) where we would run a 6 period day. Another option is a split schedule with 4 classes the first part of the day, then 4 more classes the last half of the day.
- We need to lobby for this bond and need it to pass! Pass the word in the community to vote! Our area has poor attendance with patrons voting.

Items from Council Members

- Coach Steve Clements stepped down as head coach of the football team. We thank him for his services and everything he has done for Westlake football.
- We are currently searching for a new football coach.
- We are proceeding slowly to make sure we get someone who will do a great job with the program.
- The bond accountability was earlier today. Thanks to all those who attended.
- ASD will be starting to lobby for the next bond in the spring. Council members are encouraged to spread the word and support the elections next fall!
- The current bond has one more elementary that can be built. It will either be in north Lehi or South Saratoga Springs. Both areas need it. Again, spread the word and have patrons email ASD Board as well as Superintendent Jarman.

