

Westlake High School  
**SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, December 3, 2015 – 5:00pm  
WHS Front Office Conference Room

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### **Student Excursions/Range of Costs**

- Reviewed range of costs for overnight trips (provided by Gary Twitchell)
- Range is \$85 for DECA to \$1699 for Band. This was reviewed because of numerous calls to administration that rising costs are becoming prohibitive.
- Council received feedback from boosters that clubs should be able to decide which trips to go on and how much it costs.
- Council is of the mind that parents feel pressure to approve trips and costs to avoid “rocking the boat”.
- State competitions cannot be considered optional in order to avoid fee waiver students. If a trip is required, it becomes fee waivable. The cost cannot be carried by the other students, it needs to be covered by fund raisers.
- A 3-year cap for tours and trips was discussed. This does not include all fees. Some programs cost more to run. Should a program be able to fundraise as much as they want then be able to do what they want? Fundraisers cannot be required.

### **Building Usage**

- The 2016-17 master schedule is in the process of being built. The hope is to show the district that we are utilizing the building to its max capacity.
- There will only be five periods where a classroom is not being used.
- We are NOT scheduled to receive a satellite. This means that the majority of the new teachers hired will be roaming teachers. We are anticipating 13 traveling teachers for the 2016-17 school year.

### **Trustland Usage**

- What is the best use of our Trustland money?
- Can we try to lessen class loads for certain classes that are more difficult to manage with higher numbers?
- We would reduce class-loads by buying preps and not necessarily hiring new teachers.
- We would need to plan on buying about 9 preps, totaling \$54,000.

- There may be a greater need for additional help in math because of the lower sage scores. The PLC groups could decide what direction they would want to go, whether to buy preps or to hire aides. Groups would need to specify how the aides are going to be used.
- Trustland money could also be used to give teachers more time to collaborate as a group or individual teachers to go to observe other master teaches.
- Groups could propose what they need most and how they plan to use the money.

### Items from Council Members

- During the lockdown at Pleasant Grove High School, teachers had some sort of “code” that they slid under the doors to indicate whether they were okay.
- There was a question on how the new grading policy was working.
- Can we offer computer programming other than A4? We are hiring Roger Debry to help mentor a new programming teacher. He will be a good bridge to UVU as well. The class needs to be advertised better.
- The feedback on parent teacher conferences was positive.
- The council was concerned that not very many people know about the Christmas jars carnival.
- There is a “new” counselor who has been getting complaints—may need more training.
- What can students do when they miss quizzes/assignments if they are school excused? If students miss for a school excuse, they should be allowed to make it up. Some teachers build in that they will drop a certain amount of assignments.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 7, 2016

5:00pm

WHS Front Conference Room