

SOUTH HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL
SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 5, 2023 at 4:30pm

Main Office Conference Room



Attendance: Alysha Griffiths, Heather Belcher, Bryan Call, Terrah Anderson, Jim Groethe, Leota Pearson; Non-voting attendees: Darrell Robinson, Szu Ying McFarland

Call to Order - Bryan Call

- Election of Candidates
 - Alysha Griffiths, Heather Belcher, Antonio Valbuena (not in attendance), and Deborah Bracken (not in attendance) elected
 - Motion to accept new Councilmembers with stipulation that A. Valbuena and D. Bracken accept by B. Call; second by L. Pearson; passed unanimously
- Review, Discussion, and Update, if necessary, of the SHMS School Community Council Rules of Order and Procedure
 - State Expectations
 - Minimum, maximum, or set amount of SCC members
 - Defined, specific election process
 - Designation of one and two year terms for a 50/50 SCC split
 - SHMS School Community Council has, in the past, approved a range for the number of Councilmembers serving. The State has required that school community councils stipulate a set number of seats and formalize an election of those seats.
 - B. Call provided a proposal based on State requirements
 - Discussion regarding the number of seats to be set.
 - Discussion on election procedures.
 - Motion to accept changes to SHMS School Community Council Rules of Order and Procedure (attached) by B. Call; seconded by L. Pearson; passed unanimously

Items

- Counseling Center Update
 - Counselors have met with all 7th graders and gave a “Survival Skills” lesson during 7th grade Language Arts classes on September 15.
 - 8th grade PCCR meetings are coming in November, as well as a Career unit during core classes.
- School Information (J. Groethe)
 - Events
 - Choir Concert on October 10
 - Band/Orchestra Concert on October 12

- This musical for this year will be *Matilda Jr.*
 - Trends
 - Several fights this year. We are hopeful that student behavior will calm down soon.
 - Vaping continues to be an issue. Overall, we are seeing less nicotine and more THC.
 - D. Robinson added that JSD was part of the litigation against Phillip Morris and is expecting to use proceeds towards vaping cessation.
 - Reviewed the school threat assessment and protocols from Friday, September 15
 - The Council suggested that emergency procedures be taught to parents during student registration.
 - Q & A
 - Why did Utah Studies go from being a full-year course to half-year (one semester)?
 - The decision to make Utah Studies a full-year course was made years ago in an effort to incorporate reading skills and strategies into the curriculum. Since that time, SHMS began offering a Reading class to address reading deficiencies, but Utah Studies remained a full-year course. Most middle schools offer it as a semester class, and now students who take Reading have a little more space in their schedule to take elective classes.
- 2023-2024 LAND Trust Plan Update
 - In reviewing last year's budget, SHMS did not get under the 10% spending threshold and will need to do so for the coming year. The issue came down to approximately \$16,000 unspent because a \$15,000 expense was disallowed.
 - Copies of the current year plan were shared with Councilmembers.
 - J. Groethe explained some updates, similar to the Council election process, which are now being emphasized and trained to align better with State LAND Trust expectations.
 - SHMS has been designated as a Targeted School Improvement (TSI) by the State for having student groups consistently perform below the lowest 5% for two consecutive years. As a result, SHMS is required to utilize LAND Trust funds and TSSA funds for improvement in these areas. The areas targeted are: Special Education, Multi-Lingual, and Pacific Islander.
 - The Council requested data to review for the November meeting to use in identifying areas for improvement for next year's plan. J. Groethe will bring/share data for discussion.
- 2023-2024 TSSA Plan Update
 - In reviewing last year's TSSA budget, the funds were completely spent.
 - Copies of the current year plan were shared with Councilmembers.
- General Discussion:
 - Upcoming road construction at Bangerter and 13400 South (D. Robinson) expected to start very soon. They will start by removing the pedestrian bridge over Bangerter. The

plan is to move that bridge over 13400 South at a location to be determined. Lane closures and more significant Bangerter construction will start in January 2024.

Adjourn

- Motion by A. Griffiths; second by J. Groethe; passed unanimously

Scheduled Meetings:

- October 5, 2023
- November 16, 2023
- January 25, 2024
- March 21, 2024
- April 18, 2024 (if needed)