

**South Hills Middle School**  
**Community Council Meeting - January 25, 2024**  
**Attendees:**

Attendees: Heather Belcher, Deborah Bracken, Terrah Anderson, Jim Groethe, Kara Atchison, Helen Brown, Szuying McFarland, Bryan Call, Leota Pearson .

A. Approval of minutes from 12/7/23

B. Counseling Center update

1. Finished semester change
2. Moving into registration
3. Teaching 7th graders Monday  
Teaching 8th graders Tuesday  
Teaching 6th graders Monday the 29th

C. Fundraiser Discussion & Planning - We need to start with something simple to get parents to understand that we're going to start fundraising. Spring.

1. Carwash? These are dying off in popularity.
2. Penny Wars - Maybe in April?
  - a. Is easy
  - b. Can't do it at the same time as Foothills Elementary
3. Banners - High Schools charge \$400 per banner
  - a. Jr. Jazz exposure in the gym
  - b. We could sell fence space
  - c. We prefer to market to parents, not to students
4. What is the purpose of the fundraiser? - Looking to put wraps on our brick walls. (We could put the designs on our website and the population could put money into the design they like the best...)
5. Leave Spirit Nights to the PTSA
6. A motion was made to conduct a penny wars fundraiser: Motion passed

D. School information/discussion/ and events

1. School Play
2. 2024-25 registration
3. Deal with students - if less trays are left at lunch they can earn a dance on Memory Book day
4. Balls are getting kicked on the roof and not being put back into the holder during lunch and a car was damaged.

E. New Cell Phone Policy - is consistent across classrooms and is going well. Cell phones are staying away. This has actually decreased drama!

F. Attendance policy (please see handout) Jim gave a history of tardy increases since we got rid of ISS (in school suspension).

1. Question - what if there are hygiene issues (periods, etc.)?

Answer - a student can ask to leave the previous class a few minutes early; they could go to class first and get a hall pass.

2. We need to help students understand that they are not alone.

3. Education and support did not work in reducing tardies.

G. Math Path

1. No more Honors

2. Fast Honors Track - a cut score gets you in; Math 7 1st semester; Math 8 2nd semester.

3. The new path is for upcoming 6th graders

4. Question: What about the kids who are in 8th grade Honors math?

Answer: Current kids will continue with the old system

5. Question: What changed?

Answer: Data showed it is more beneficial to all students.

5. Question: What is the test?

Answer: It is being created right now.

H. Member urged parents to have their 9th grade students take Earth Science.

I. Land Trust - Academic Mentors' funding has been lost. They ran groups and helped with struggling students.

Question - What's going to happen to the students who are using these services:

Answer: We don't know

Question - What caused the budget over-run?

Answer - A new crack down by the Legislature. In the past we could use new teachers' salaries so the amount was lower but now we have to put the amount in that veteran teachers make. Also, we are not allowed to know if the teacher we choose takes the benefits.

Question - How do we make a budget when we don't have all of the information?

Answer - It's a guessing game

Question - Can we write letters?

Answer - Yes. Send them to Cody Curtis or Brent Godfrey

Question - Can fundraisers bridge the gap?

Motion to adjourn: Passed

Optional meeting Apr 18, 2023 at 4:30