

School Community Council  
October 25, 2016

**Those in Attendance:**

Brian McBill	Tricia Leininger	Terra Bingham
Shelly Karren	Matt Leininger	Robyn Lee
Tiffany Keim	Albert Spencer-Wise	Chad Heyborne
Brittany Stephenson	Melissa Fabrizio	Callie Bjerregaard
Jim Jensen	Karin Hunter	Brenda Staples
Karl Packer	Cheryl Awerkamp	Shannon Alvey

**Others in Attendance:**

Jake Barton (SBO)

Welcome by Brian

Tiffany Keim asked for approval of September meeting minutes

Motion to approve by Terra Bingham

Second by Albert Spencer-Wise

Minutes approved

**SBO update (Karl Packer & Jake Barton)**

- Jake Barton shared information about the annual school fundraiser for Derek through Make-a-Wish Foundation. Jake and Karl elaborated on the school's fundraising efforts for this year. Karl explained it takes approximately \$5000 to fulfill a child's wish. Karl also updated the group on Kate, the child for whom the fundraiser was done in 2015, and her trip to Hawaii. Make-A-Wish is a place designed by kids and the raised money goes to help these kids.
- Brian talked about striking the balance of learning in school with providing the right social and emotional supports to help students be successful in life. Some of the best days for educators are when students are engaged in learning about compassion and helping others—Make A Wish is one such way to foster this learning.

**CTE Update: (Matt Leininger)**

- Mr. Leininger talked about the new Medical Innovations Pathway, a program designed to provide training for any student interested in the medical device industry. A flyer was distributed to the group. This program will be housed at Jordan High School. An open house will be held on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00 pm. Paid externships will be available through this program. Students can earn scholarships and be guaranteed at least 1 interview with a medical device company as well. Manufacturing Principles 1 & Medical Device are two courses that are available in this program. See Mr. Leininger for more information about this new, district-wide program.

### **Counseling Corner (Callie Bjerrgaard)**

- Callie Bjerrgaard provided an update on College Application Week. The goal is for all seniors to apply to at least one college during this week. This event will occur the week of November 7<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>. College representatives will be on site to assist students with this process. Parent volunteers from the PTSA will assist with this day in terms of data collection from students. SUU, Dixie, and Snow are waiving application fees for students who apply this week. Canyons Foundation is providing funds to students who need assistance paying for the college application process.
- FAFSA applications opened October 1<sup>st</sup> and are based on 2015 tax info. FAFSA night will be hosted at Alta High on November 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 pm. All students encouraged to fill out a FAFSA form. Discussion about paying for college in general will also occur that night.
- Advisory portfolio: This item will help students to complete a portfolio to help students compile information that will help them with the college application process. Students' four-year plan will be an important piece of the portfolio, which will be started with 9<sup>th</sup> graders this year. The format of this portfolio will be a combination of electronic and hardcopy. The portfolio will also be used as a reflection piece that can be shared with underclassmen at the conclusion of students' senior year.

### **CSD Mission, Vision, and Goals (Brian McGill)**

- Mr. McGill shared the revised vision, mission, values, tenets, and indicators from Canyons School District. Indicators will help to measure growth. It was noted that neither the vision nor the mission addresses social/emotional supports for students. McGill said he would share this feedback with the district leadership.

### **Advanced Placement Participation (Brian McGill)**

- Mr. McGill talked about the increase in student enrollment in AP courses. Students have more success in college as they enroll in at least one AP course. Alta's enrollment is up 14% over what it has been in the past. Students will continue to be encouraged to enroll in rigorous coursework.

### **Parent Teacher Conference Format Input (Brian McGill)**

- Karin Hunter explained the decision to have PTC's on specific calendar days (with high schools having Monday and Tuesday as their conference days this year). Because elementary schools must have 100% attendance for PTC, the calendar was put together to give them the best chance to meet that goal. At Alta, PTC attendance is lower in the spring than it is in the fall.

- The group discussed the current format and value of PTC's. Some members wondered what teachers would prefer and whether communication is more of a detriment than a help nowadays. Another member said that each student is different and parents should have options with regard to communications with teachers. McGill pointed out that Skyward has likely reduced the number of parents who attend by nearly half. One parent noted that it's a parent payday. It also helps a parent to know where a student is in the class: what is the student learning? The group agreed that a face to face contact is very important for parents.

#### **UCAS Report (Terra Bingham)**

- Ms. Bingham shared this year's PACE report from the State Office of Education.
- A printed handout of the report was distributed to the group and Terra highlighted the primary criteria: achievement and growth points. Alta is classified as a "B" school once again per the point system. Ms. Bingham went over the data including comparisons with other schools in the state. If the SAGE test fades from the criteria for school grading, the state may use new metrics to calculate school grade.
- Discussion about SAGE testing followed relating to accountability and student motivation to participate in the test.

#### **Land Trust Budget (Brian McGill)**

- Mr. McGill proposed three ideas for use of the additional \$30,000-\$35,000 monies in Land Trust:
  - First, hiring a part-time teacher to help with class loads (social studies 9<sup>th</sup> grade, science 9<sup>th</sup>). The disadvantage is that there is no guarantee for perpetuity with funding for such a position.
  - Second, hiring a part-time counselor (or half-time student support professional) who could focus on our at-risk students and provide supports to those students. This individual would work in conjunction with the counseling team and administration to implement interventions and plans for these students.
  - Third, investing in a chrome book lab (40-50 computers). These funds could possibly be used to update the hardwired labs as well.
- No vote was taken today, but a vote will be taken next meeting.

#### **Safety Street Crossing Concerns on 11000 (Brian McGill)**

- There have been parental complaints about the pedestrian light near the crosswalk on the north side of the school that doesn't work. This makes crossing to school dangerous in the morning. The city said they would take care of this issue. Brian has also addressed this issue with the city. Mr. Packer pointed out that there have been a smattering of accidents on that street the past several decades.

**PTSA (Robyn Lee)**

- Critical Issues Conference update—attended by two Alta students. Monte Styles was the main speaker whose topic was to aim to have a natural high rather than a chemical high. Robyn recommends him as a speaker for our students. Other talks were given about issues related to chemical dependency, sex trafficking and suicide as well.
- Mr. Packer and Ms. Bingham noted that on November 3<sup>rd</sup> some of these speakers will be coming to talk to Alta students as well.

Mr. McGill concluded with reference to the Principal's Roundtable conversation earlier today about students' perceptions on the positive school culture at Alta High. He praised our students at Alta for their efforts to make the school a welcoming, positive place.

Tiffany Keim: Motion to adjourn

Matt Leininger: 2<sup>nd</sup> motion

**Next meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016**