



# Alta High School

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## SCC Minutes

October 24, 2022

Hawk House Gallery

Attending: Amanda Scott, Jessica Miller, Navina Forsythe, Chad VanOrden, Kjersti Barlow, Ken Rowley, SBO Jacob Motzkus, SBO Paige Haddock, Katie Christensen, Kelly Maksem, Jared Tucker, Nicole Harman, Callie Bjerregaard, Shelly Karren, Jeff Colemere, Erin Black, Nele Ofisa, Merinda Cutler, Katie Atkinson

Not in attendance: Page Checketts, Melissa Gibbs, Cache Merrill, Tess Hortin

### I. Welcome – Katie Christensen

- Called to order at 3:17pm
- Try to keep meeting short, watch time allotted to you

### II. SBO Update/Report – Mrs. Louder & SBO's

- Homecoming was very successful: tailgate, pep rally, dance, etc. were all successful and enjoyed by students/attendees
- Upcoming Veterans Day assembly will honor veterans with a breakfast and an assembly. Nominations of veterans to be honored are being accepted now. Veterans will receive a personal invitation to the event
- Make-a-Wish assembly 10/26. This year's recipient is Ellie. She wants to go to Disney World. She and her twin sister both have cancer. Her sister was honored a couple of years ago. Other activities will be held to raise money as well such as spirit nights, odd jobs in the neighborhood, etc.
- Teacher dodgeball event at airborne is also upcoming. Student Gov is hoping to get more teachers signed up for these events
- SBOs excused at 3:23

### III. MLL focus - Jessica Miller

- MultiLingual Learners - presented data. 35% increase in MLL population over last year: 10 home languages last year; 21 home languages this year
- WIDA level - most MLL fall at level 3. WIDA levels higher than 3 equates to proficiency in no noticeable difference to English speakers. Goal is to help bridge this gap and help support teachers in efforts to teach English
- MLL numbers will only grow based on incoming numbers from feeder schools and shift in population dynamics.
- Proficiency data should be available soon

### IV. PTSA Update – Nicole Harman

- No-Fuss Fundraiser has started. Donation only. Goal \$13k. Will be able to run all programs with this amount
- Student club started again this year with 15 students currently
- Hawk Hero back in swing. First round was well accepted by students earning the award. Club students did a good job in choosing recipients and knowing if someone was nominated on popularity or merit
- November staff appreciation will be presented in conjunction with Admin. The school will provide sodas, PTSA will provide snacks which will be taken around during advisory
- December staff appreciation is still being planned
- Reflections - there are currently 28 entries, most of which are in literature
- There is a Latino rep on PTSA who keeps Admin and PTSA updated on Latino community needs. That has been very helpful
- The November PTSA meeting has been moved to Nov 16th at 10am in Alumni Room
- Still in need of a president elect

#### **V. Counseling Corner – Callie Bjerregaard**

- College Application Week is over. Very successful. All colleges offered free registration through October this year, except BYU
- Gathering data now as to how many students actually applied during this time and to which colleges
- October 27 is LIA Parent Night. Turn out is expected to be good. There are two LIA classes this year, both of which are over capacity. The purpose of the LIA Parent Night is to help parents know resources available to them and how to access them. The language barrier is difficult in this population
- Nele Ofisa would like to offer a Pacific Islanders Parent Night with the same purpose and goals. Alta used to hold a night for Pacific Islanders before covid for 3-4 years. They are planning to do it again and are looking for a date in December
- Junior CCR's are starting. Individual appointments are made and held with counselors. It is a time for parents and students to look at classes/credits needed for graduation and college
- Valedictorians and Salutatorians will be brought back to Alta. The University of Utah offers scholarships to students earning these awards. Discussions are ongoing of how to best approach and select these recipients

#### **VI. Digital Citizenship – Amanda Scott**

- Alta is utilizing the district's digital citizenship plan and adapting it to better meet specific needs at Alta
- The goal for Alta is to be on top of the digital citizenship plan, to keep and teach students how to be safe on the web, how to access sites safely, how to determine credibility, etc.
- Alta and the district utilizes several management systems, supervision systems, etc.
- Parents are being involved in developing plans and implementing programs as well. This is not just a school or district effort

- All of the digital citizenship plan is available online for anyone to access
- Alta has developed a digital student education program that will be presented this quarter during advisory class
- Alta faculty education is also happening. Ways are being considered about how to present/share this information with the community to become better digital citizens. Ideas/questions are being sent to our community on a monthly basis for home discussions and conversations
- Jeff Colemere expressed concerns about including content that may be hurtful or offensive to individuals. Content should be objective, not subjective nor leading in any way. How do we stay down the middle of the road? Response: Alta is trying to not teach what is biased and what is not, that would be biased. Alta is trying to help students make that determination themselves, by checking research, dates, integrity of sources, etc. Alta doesn't want to teach student what to think but we want to teach them how to determine credibility
- Can parents opt out of digital citizenship? Shelly responded that there is nothing in place currently, but that opting out is always an option. It is not something that has been considered under this topic as of yet
- Amanda Scott mentioned that one topic being addressed with students is the idea that the top link from a search may not be the most credible source. Teachers are working hard to teach students to look deep...Facebook is not a credible source

## **VII. School Safety Plan – Jared Tucker**

- Safety priorities at AHS are to reduce/rid bathrooms of drug and vaping use. One consideration has been to keep the bathrooms locked. That has not had to happen based on the new protocols and changes being made at the school
- Changes include: Two additional hall monitors, Admin making more of a visible presence during lunches and pass-through times. Decreases have been seen in drug use in the bathrooms. Efforts are now being made to find where those students are going. The resource officer and Jared Tucker are making rounds through the parking lots as time allows or to follow up on reports from other students. Parking lots do not have adequate video surveillance but that does not have to be made public. Signs can be posted as a deterrent
- Mental health arena is improving for students through the addition of more mental health workers being available in the school. Land Trust money has been approved and is being used to subsidize these efforts. The effects have been noticeable. Mental health screenings are done by the district. Dates are upcoming in the school year and screenings are held at different locations throughout the district
- Outside doors are locked during class time. Hall monitors are checking for propped or open doors throughout the day. The south doors by the gym should never be unlocked. The doors to the seminary building are open only during pass through times
- Visitors are required to enter the main doors and sign in as a visitor or volunteer in the Main Office. Greater efforts are being made to ensure

everyone walking past the Main Office has checked in and is wearing a visitor/volunteer badge

- There is an Active Shooter Plan and Alta has held one drill already this year. There are areas of improvement but overall it went well. The district has a new Active Shooter Committee which Jared Tucker is a part of. This committee will be auditing buildings and helping to improve security in the event of an active shooter. Teachers have the ability to lock classroom doors. Most doors have a magnet in the door jam that can easily be pulled out and the door can remain locked at all times. Efforts are being made to have this available to all the classroom doors
- Students are more aware of the increase in monitoring of the school and school grounds and it has made a difference. Alta's goal is to keep students safe and help them develop healthy lifestyles

### **VIII. Alta Enrollment Numbers – Ken Rowley**

- Total Students: 2333 (number includes 24 preschool students)
  - Special Ed: 208 - 8.9%
  - Low Income: 315 - 13.5%
  - English Language Learners: 108 - 4.6%
- Race/Ethnicity:
  - Hispanic: 271 - 11.6%
  - White: 1811 - 77.6%
  - American Indian: 5 - .2%
  - Asian: 68 - 2.9%
  - African American/Black: 29 - 1.2%
  - Pacific Islander: 39 - 1.7%
  - Multiple Races: 110 - 4.7%
- Full-time Teachers: 92
- Many of Alta's teachers are new. There are many new ways to get them certified. They have degrees in other areas and are needing teacher certifications. District has programs to help such as the APPEL program. Several Alta teachers are taking advantage of this program

### **IX. School Overall Performance Grade from USOE - Ken Rowley**

- Utah School Grade - Alta earned an A overall
- The grade is then broken down from into 4 areas: Achievement, Growth, English Learner Progress and Postsecondary Readiness
- These numbers come from the Aspire test. This data represents the period over COVID
- The English Learner Progress number were down. This could mean those students were not or did not get the learning they needed to progress during the COVID home learning environment
- Alta is looking at the need to allocate more resources to help make up for what was lost during this time

### **X. Other Items**

- No other items were discussed

A motion was made to adjourn by Jeff Colemere at 4:50pm

Seconded by Merinda Cutler

All voted in favor.

**Next Meeting:**

November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022