



WJHS School Community Council Meeting minutes

Location: WJHS Alumni Room

Date: 01/27/2021

In Attendance

Administration: Jim Birch & Mike Hutchings

School Board: Jen Atwood

Counselor: Helen Brown

Parents: Wendy Brown, JoLynne DiFrancesco, Doris Hunt, Janis Johnson, Matt Johnson, Anganette Jones, Alison Lucas, Megan Myers, Jessica Navarro, Andrea Robinson, Tiffany Southworth, Michelle Whitchurch

Teachers: Robyn Briggs, Kristie Clawson, Natalie Nielsen, April Winegar

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Agenda items

- I. Welcome – Tiffany Southworth – President
- II. Approval of Jan. 2020 Minutes – Tiffany Southworth 1st and Wendy Brown 2nd
- III. IB Update: Mike Hutchings – IB visit November 16-17 and would like to speak to parents as well as teachers. Mike and/or Jenicee will contact parents to speak with IB Committee.
- IV. Report on LAND Trust Plan and Budget – Mike Hutchings
 - a) Goal #1: Increase graduation rate – Focus on at-risk and ELL students
 - i) Students are struggling because of soft closures (online)
 - (1) 376 makeup packets have been completed
 - (2) Given a full FTE to track seniors (both online and in person) to make sure students are on track to graduate
 - (3) Base camp/Check and connect has tripled since last year – Do we need more money for credit recovery?
 - ii) WJHS received a letter for High School of Excellence!
 - iii) Graduation rate increased again this past year
 - iv) Mike asked everyone to please review our LAND Trust goals
 - b) Goal #2: Continue to build a college going culture
 - i) WJHS approved a second FAFSA night (virtual). Counselors will help students through the college application process
 - ii) WJHS is adding more AP and concurrent enrollment classes
 - c) Goal #3: Increase/update technology to support student learning

- i) We have more Chromebooks coming in March
- ii) Goal to be a one-to-one school
- iii) We will work with middle school to have students keep Chromebooks all 6 years (7th grade – 12th grade)
- iv) WJHS is down 32 Chromebooks from last year's closure (students didn't return Chromebooks)
- v) Textbook money is helping compensate the price of Chromebooks and carts

V. Recommendation for 2021-2022 LAND Turs Plan and Budget – Mike Hutchings

- a) Goals will be the same as this year; we will just update the amounts being spent

VI. IB Update – Jim Birch and Helen Brown

- a) Had two open houses for IB and had 20-25 kids attend
- b) Contacting middle school about IB
- c) Contacted other IB schools and we plan on 5-7 kids the first year
- d) WJHS has a goal of 25-30 kids in three years
- e) This program offers up to 30 credit ours for colleges in Utah
- f) Studies show that students enrolled in an IB program have a higher rate of graduating college than students who do not enroll
- g) IB is more like concurrent enrollment than AP classes
- h) Students are allowed to take IB classes but not be enrolled in the IB program
- i) IB is a two year program (Junior and Senior years) but they start preparing them in 9th grade
- j) IB diploma is awarded through IB International
- k) More information is on WJHS website
- l) Helen asked all members to help spread the word about the IB program

VII. School Guidance Report – Helen Brown

- a) Counselors completed over 1200 class changes during the first two weeks of the semester – Thanks for your patience
- b) Tiffany stated that the form was very helpful
- c) Counselors tried to accommodate students switching from virtual to in-person
- d) PCCRs are coming up – Juniors college and career plans
- e) WJHS has a college advisor that will help students fill out application, complete the FAFSA, find campus visits, etc. Visit the counselor canvas page.
- f) Registration for next year will be at the end of February
- g) Students can bring home registration cards so parents can help them choose classes. Also a copy will be on the WJHS website

VIII. West Jordan Update – Jim Birch

- a) School play, Oklahoma, was outstanding
- b) Winter sports are ongoing – players get 4 tickets per family
- c) Drill and dance have showcases coming up – Feb 11, 12, 15 @ 7:00 p.m., you can buy tickets at WJHS website under athletics
- d) Feb 4 – Virtual district dance company event
- e) National Athlete of the week was awarded to Austin Klingler
- f) Battle of the Band – application is in the media center and due Feb 8. The actual battle will take place on Feb 25
- g) Graduation is virtual – we are working with the city about the parade route
- h) Jen asked others to reach out to parents who are concerned about the virtual graduation to explain what a success it was last year
- i) Graduation night is still in question – Should happen as long as all school have one
- j) Thanks to the Board for no overnight travel across the board
- k) Thanks to the Board for the soft closure decisions

IX. Upcoming School Community Council Meetings – Tiffany Southworth

- a) March 17, 2021
 - i) Finalized for Land Trust – voting please be here!
 - ii) Meeting attendance is crucial (quorum required for voting on plan)
 - iii) Official voting will be done via email at or after that meeting
 - (1) Verify accurate emails

X. Questions/Concerns

- a) How are Fridays going – more are coming than expected
- b) Michelle is concerned that some teachers aren't using Fridays as expected
- c) Robyn suggests that teachers should communicate with students about Friday expectations
- d) Tiffany would prefer to go back to regular Monday-Friday schedule
- e) Natalie feels like she is a better teacher because of the Friday PLC time
- f) Some feel that Fridays are extremely helpful for students to keep up in classes
- g) Jen feels like her son has more of a connection with his teachers
- h) Some are concerned that older students are just going to work, or parents are having them take care of younger sibling instead of doing school work
- i) Board is sending out a survey to see if Fridays should stay the same or go back to normal.

XI. Move to adjourn – Tiffany Southworth, 2nd, Kristie Clawson