

**School Community Council Minutes
South Jordan Middle School
November 17, 2009**

Members Present are checked below:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> David Allred | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meg Boud | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julia Davis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suzanne Eddinton | <input type="checkbox"/> Corey Fairholm | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Gwilliam |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christy Harris | <input type="checkbox"/> Katherine Hawkins | <input type="checkbox"/> Paulette Hedrick |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loraine Holman | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Micheal Kelly | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Kertesz |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diana Kline | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tiffany Lipscomb | <input type="checkbox"/> Brenda Lyman |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annette Mabey | <input type="checkbox"/> Brad Magee | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shawn McLeod |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristen Ormond | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sherri Peisley | <input type="checkbox"/> Sue Peterson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martha Proctor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Roberts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Roskelley |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terri Sanders | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cyndi Thomson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Angela Turnboe |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vilate VanLeewen | <input type="checkbox"/> Marilee Wilson | |

1. Welcome and introductions: Todd Roberts welcomed all community council members.

2. CSIP Update: Parent and teacher members of the Roundtable Team provided information regarding the school improvement process. Review of the data to determine critical needs have been very insightful. Parents appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this process and have gained a better understanding and appreciation of all that our school is doing to improve student learning.

3. School Culture and Climate:

- **Accreditation Process:** Mrs. Kline shared with the committee that the SJMS direction for the Accreditation process was created by a collaborative effort between the teachers, parents, and students in creating our mission, beliefs, and DRSLs.
- **Middle School Reform:** Mrs. Kline reported that the SJMS focus is on student needs. We have created a TA (Teacher Advisory) program which provides student social interaction and growth as well as positive interaction with an adult advocate. She shared with the council the pamphlet “Middle School.....What’s It All About?” This pamphlet talks about Middle School Reform and how it will best serve our middle age students. Mrs. Kline also talked about the book “If These are the Kids, Who Should the Adults Be? And How Do We Teach Them?” This book gives great perspective regarding early adolescent characteristics as well as strategies to meet their needs.
- **Rewards, Recognition & Climate Committee:** This committee was created to provide a method of acknowledging appropriate behavior and academic achievement. The committee also provides activities to promote a positive school culture for staff, students and parents.
- **UBI:** Our UBI program provides consistent, positive school wide behavior management. Through the use of school wide rules, the PROWL points, and a citizenship rubric, a consistent expectation has been set throughout all school locations and activities.
- **Student Leadership and Involvement:** SJMS has four leadership groups of students who plan, create, and provide school wide activities: PTSA, SBOs, HOPE Squad, and Stage-Tech Crew. In addition to these groups we have NJHS and MESA organizations which provide additional opportunities for students to learn leadership qualities.

- 4. Positive Student Behavior:** Mr. McLeod reported that the school culture and climate carry over into our students' behaviors. The Big Picture at SJMS is to focus on promoting positive student behaviors.
- **UBI:** At SJMS, we use UBI rewards systems to promote positive student behaviors. We ask teachers to "catch" students doing good things and to reward them with prowl cards.
 - **Rachel's Challenge:** This program has also helped our approach to positive student behaviors by challenging students to spread random acts of kindness. By doing this, SJMS hopes to build a culture which promotes caring and empathy from and for all students.
 - **HOPE squad:** The HOPE Squad is a group which focuses on spreading student kindness. HOPE (Helping Other People Everyday) squad welcomes new students to SJMS by making sure a new student does not eat alone in the cafeteria their entire first week of school and that students escort them from class to class each day during their first week at school.
 - **Counseling Department efforts:** The Counseling Center impacts student behavior by providing one-on-one assistance, groups for specific needs and other activities as needed. This year, all students were given a book titled "StarGirl" which emphasizes that being different is still all right. Students are asked to read the book and process the meaning. Discussions take place in the lunchroom, TA classes, counseling groups, and some regular classes.

5. Collaborating to Improve Student Learning- Professional Learning Communities:

- **Assist struggling students – Pyramid of Interventions:** Mr. Kertesz talked about how our school's collaboration focus is on improving student learning. By creating our PLC's, we create a culture of collaboration and focus to ensure that all students learn. Teachers can focus on student learning rather than teaching. The teachers will hold themselves accountable for high student results.
- **Stretch all students – Enrichment / Opportunities:** Mr. Kertesz also provided information regarding enrichment opportunities for students to further their development.

6. Collaboration Time - Update: Mrs. Kline invited council members to visit on Fridays and attend team meetings to observe the amazing tasks teachers are engaged in.

- **Horizontal Teaming (Elkridge / District wide)** SJMS teamed with ERMS teachers in a collaboration effort of horizontal teaming which allowed teachers from both schools an opportunity to collaborate with each other and share ideas to further improve student learning.
- **Curriculum Maps, Learning Targets, I Can Statements, Common Assessments:** Mrs. Kline commented on the fact that through curriculum maps, clear learning targets can be created. Also by using I Can Statements and Common Assessments, students will be able to monitor their own learning as they progress to a mastery level.
- **Interdisciplinary Connections – teaming / C. O. W. Board:** Mrs. Kline commented that the connections that are made through interdisciplinary teaming, allows teachers to create similar lessons that relate to each other.

7. Honors Classes: Procedures for applying for the honors program have been included in the newsletter and will also be accessible on the school's website. Current honors students may continue in honors classes if they have not been on probation during the school year. New students, regular ed students, probationary honors students all have an equal opportunity to apply for honors classes by following the application process described.

- **Honors acceptance is determined by a rubric score using the following criteria –SRI score; Star test; Cumulative GPA; Grades in Language Arts, Reading & Social Studies; Cumulative Citizenship; CRT scores; IOWAS scores; Short- answer Questions; UTIPS tTest (7th grade); team recommendation.**

8. Upcoming Events:

Nov 19 – BHS Musical – 9th grade

Nov 19 – Drama Assembly

Nov 23 – Bee Hive Homes Field Trip

Nov 25-29 Thanksgiving Recess

Dec 3 – Orchestra Concert

Dec 9 – Student of the Month Breakfast

Dec 10 – Band Concert

Dec 17 – Choir Concert

Dec 22 – Music Assembly / Holiday Drawings – DONATIONS WELCOME

Dec 23-Jan 3 – Winter Recess

Jan 4 – Back to school

9. **Landtrust Video:** The video was shown for those council members who wished to watch.

10. **Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, February 2nd -6:00 PM/ March 23rd – 6:00 PM