

COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATES

2007-2008

The following information is from the Trust Lands Handbook, provided by the Utah PTA and Utah State Office of Education School Land Trust Program:

1. “The Open and Public Meetings Act technically only applies to groups that expend tax revenue, which school trust dollars are not. However, the intent of the law is that ‘actions be taken openly.’ In that spirit, it is important to:
 - Notify parents and teachers in advance of meetings in your newsletter or by posting the agenda on the school front door. Be sure to include the date, time and location of the meeting. If the meetings are held on a regular basis, you may notify patrons once annually.
 - Have a simple majority present when you adopt the School LAND Trust Plan or anything else you for which you are given responsibility.
 - Keep written minutes of the date, time and place of the meeting, who was present and absent, what was discussed and decided, and the names of anyone who made a presentation to the Council.”
2. Community Councils will have an opportunity to affirm their compliance with the requirements of the law when the 2008-09 plan is submitted on-line. Be prepared to answer these questions:

17. Compliance with the laws. Please check the boxes to indicate if:

- Notification was given two weeks in advance of elections for the School Community Council*
- Parents were elected (or appointed when there was an unfilled parent position) by parents to the School Community Council*
- Employees were elected (or appointed when there was an unfilled employee position) by employees to the School Community Council*
- Proper notice of meetings was given to the public by posting on the school door at the beginning of the day before the meeting or annual notice was given at the beginning of the school year for regularly scheduled meetings*

3. As the new plan is submitted in the spring, each Council member will be asked to sign an **Approval Signature Page** to indicate their participation in the process of implementing the current LAND Trust Plan and their agreement with the new plan. No plan will be approved without this form submitted to both the District and the Utah State Office of Education LAND Trust Office.
4. By law, LAND Trust funds must be used to implement ACADEMIC plans to improve student performance. Please be careful to observe the revised funding guidelines.