

Morningside Community Council Minutes  
Friday, March 13, 2009

Present:

Joan Bramble, Karianne Prince, Karen Duzy, Michael Porter, Michele Jones, Cindy McCandless, Chelle Brain, Emily Allison, Liz Richey, Keri Veach, Edie Church, Stephanie Behner, Laura Keally (Oakridge parent)

1. The recorder was turned on and Mrs. Prince welcomed everyone to the meeting. She deferred the Community Council election results until the end.
2. The February minutes were amended and approved.
3. Mrs. Bramble presented information as to the Trust Land progress report that needs to be sent into the district at the end of this month. We reviewed our academic goals of math, reading, fine arts and science. Our Trust Land funds are being utilized to fund a certified teacher whom works with second and third grade split and the Children's Dance Theater (CDT). The number of students impacted was recommended to be placed in the report. The CDT instructors work with the teachers to develop curriculum based on what the teacher is presenting in the classroom. We recommended that she inform all of the state leaders, and our local representatives in the school boundary area. Mrs. Duzy wanted to be sure that we include those representing the Canyon Rim area and the area across 4500 South, also.

We then began the process of formulating the 2009-2010 School Plan. There was consensus that our goals should still be Math, Reading, Science and Fine Arts. We discussed the probability of 2 "split" classrooms in the upcoming year, based on current enrollment. The certified teacher is considered to be helpful for decreasing class size and aiding in student achievement. We discussed the cost of CDT which is considered to be very valuable to the students, as well. Mrs. Bramble stated that our Trust Land Funds were likely to be around \$20,000 and that we spent approximately \$14,000 on CDT this year. The left over \$6,000 would not be enough to fund a certified teacher. QTSA funds will not likely be available in the upcoming school year, due to budget cuts at the Legislature. Our discussion led to possibly offering CDT to students every other year. Mr. Porter was consulted as to the value of dance with the sixth grade. He stated that it was a struggle the first half of the program to get the students ready to attend. After much debate, it was decided that we would try to offer the CDT to Kindergarten, First, Third and Fifth graders in the upcoming year, as funding allowed. Our remaining money would go to hiring aides to assist in the split level classrooms, or if able, a certified teacher, and if monies available further teacher instruction. (i.e. Core Academy) Mrs. Bramble relayed the goals of increasing scores by 5% each year, which was felt to be an obtainable goal. Mrs. Bramble will put reports together and email them to the council where they can be reviewed. A signature page was passed, so Mrs. Bramble can fax that in with the report which will be filed online.

4. The next item on the agenda was the French Immersion program. Mr. Porter presented the teacher surveys. Out of the nineteen surveys handed out, sixteen were returned and of those, six were for the program and ten were against it being incorporated into the school. Mr. Porter stated that he asked some of those that hadn't turned in their surveys in as to their feelings and felt their response was more laissez faire. Mrs. Brain asked Mrs. McCandless to speak to Mrs. Bringhurst as she had spoken at the PTA meeting earlier in the day as to how she felt it would impact the first grade teachers. Mrs. Duzy and Mrs. Jones attended the faculty presentation, and said that it was a more even-handed approach and focused on whether the program would be a good fit for this school. Mrs. Jones asked that the district presenter that was at the faculty meeting, be the one used for the community presentation. Paul Shepherd was the district presenter, and Mrs. Bramble stated that he would be the one to present to the Morningside families. We discussed the timing of a community meeting and decided that it will be Thursday, March 19 at 6 pm. Mrs. Turner will be asked to email families today, with a flier to go home Monday, and post it on the marquee. After much discussion, as to whom we should survey, and whether the surveys should be weighted in any fashion, it was decided that a survey will be distributed to the families currently enrolled in the school with the results possibly weighted more heavily to those that will have K-3 graders next year, as this change would impact them the most. The surveys will be sent home on Friday, March 20 with a return due by Tuesday, March 24. We will meet on Thursday, March 26 at 9:15 am to tabulate the results. Mrs. McCandless and Mr. Porter said they could find someone to take their classes and attend. It was discussed that the community council's role is to facilitate the distribution of information on this program, gather community/faculty input and relay to the district as to whether it is a good fit for our school.
5. Mrs. Prince reported on the City of Holladay Educational Advisory Council meeting. She stated that they met at the Holladay City Hall. There was a presentation on Holladay city improvements that are done or underway. The Educational committee, which consisted of the Community Council Chairpersons of the schools serving the Holladay city's children, decided to focus efforts on anti-bullying programs. Mrs. Prince informed them of Morningside's RAD kids program. This Advisory council is just beginning and looking into programs and fundraising, etc.
6. There was no other business. The recorder was turned off. The election ballots were to be counted and results tabulated.

**The next meeting will be March 26 at 9:15 a.m. – room pending.**