

TIMPANOGOS HIGH SCHOOL  
SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING  
May 13 , 2009

In attendance: Theron Murphy, Mark Shurtliff, Stacey Edgington, Lyn Denna, Janessa Millett, Kori Crampton, Kay Thomas, Jennifer Lewis, Cathy Keller, Tricia Bray, Caroline Thorne, and Kris Bentley

**Student Council**

Greg Park, student council advisor, explained that a letter of explanation had been sent to parents of next year's student council members outlining a process they hope to implement at THS next year for student leaders. This purpose of the letter was to inform as well as dispel concerns parents and students may have. Mr. Park pointed out that after two secret ballot votes the students on the council were all in favor of implementing cabinet positions.

The letter explained that as many as four cabinet positions would be filled by students who were unsuccessful in gaining a student body office. They must be seniors and will be considered student body officers if appointed. Mr. Park would like to fill the positions based on need and ability of students who apply. Mr. Park has spoken with the advisors of other area high schools and they all have all had positive experiences since adding cabinet members. It was mentioned that students are only able to serve in one school leadership position, but they may run for office all three years (e.g. – a student may not be on PACK and Student Council). The SCC voted unanimously to move forward in the process of implementing student cabinet positions. The next step will be to gain the approval of the Management and Operations representatives.

**New Council Members**

Tricia Bray, a French and Social Studies teacher at THS was welcomed to the council as a new teacher representative. Cathy Keller will continue to serve next year. Mr. Murphy is in the process of inviting two additional teachers to fill the other two employee vacancies.

Pam Adams, who was not present, was welcomed as a new parent representative who will serve a two-year term.

Kori Crampton, who has been a part of council for the past two years expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve. She has especially enjoyed the interaction with parents and felt she had gained insights that could not be gained in any other way.

**Trust Lands Award reviews**

Kris Bentley discussed the measurement and reporting procedure for all recipients of Land Trust monies. She has completed detailed forms that will help teachers as well as council

members understand what is expected. It is hoped that this new procedure will help monitor the Trust Land monies including measurement and reporting. Departmental teams and or individuals receiving grants will be asked to report their results to the council. Students receiving benefit from the grants will also be asked to report to the council. Land Trust Awards as well as next year's budget allocation will be e-mailed to those who applied for funding within the next week. It is important to note that all funded grants are pending school board approval. Funds will be available beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. (Land Trust Allocations and 2009-10 Budget are attached).

### **Electronic Devices**

Mr. Murphy reported that the school is currently considering a collective commitment in an effort to ensure higher levels of learning by limiting electronic device use. "We need to remove all obstacles if our goal is to ensure high levels of learning for all students."

The current policy is that electronic devices should be put away during instructional time. Theron explained that anything we do as a team is going to benefit Timpanogos. However, in order for any policy to be effective, a collective commitment must be made among all team members to uphold and support the policy change. There are currently many inconsistencies among teachers. Theft, inappropriate materials on phones and i-pods, hampering of social skills, safety issues, etc..., are also concerns .

The proposal would be that cell phones would be allowed at school, but use would only be allowed during channel one (at the discretion of the teacher), class break, and lunchtime. I-pods or listening devices would not be allowed at school.

Students who violate the policy would have to ask a parent(s) to retrieve the device from an administrator on the first offense.

All council members were in favor of moving forward with the enforcement of an electronic device policy, provided teachers would make a collective commitment to consistently enforce the policy.

Although M&O reps reported overwhelming support from their departmental teams, THS faculty will be given the opportunity to voice their input one more time before a final decision is made.

### **Thank You**

As the out-going chair, Mark expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve.

**NEXT MEETING** – September 8, 2009, 2:30 p.m. in the Timpanogos High School administrative conference room.