

School Community Council
3/14/2012
2:30 P.M.

Attendees: Mike Travis, Tami Mickelsen, Lisa Earl, Wendi Woolf, Jennifer Batchler, Cherae Ecalono, Scott Sumner, Mike Bearden, Mark Clement, LaDawn Edwards, Angela Moulton, Darla Baker, Laura Belnap, Jody Murphy, Lisa Larsen

1. Minutes – accepted as they are on the website.
2. Paul Andrus - Language Arts Core: There is a new core for language arts. Changes are going to be minimal and should not impact us negatively. The new core will push the text difficulty to better prepare students for higher levels of education. Changes include an increase in text complexity, increase in teaching non-fiction texts, teaching the elements of argument, teaching three major writing genres each year and an increase in rigor. Mark Clement commented that the majority of students at UVU come from Alpine School District and 35% are not ready for college classes. Our school board is looking to bridge the gap. Mr. Andrus has seen improvement in the special education section. We have Read180 for those who are struggling. Regarding the Lexile, our library is working to make sure that books show what level the students are reading at.
3. Angela Moulton - Math Core: It was noted that the new core is not a federal government mandate. State governors got together and decided that they need to standardize things. Experts were integral in this process. Feedback was gathered from professionals all over the country and they had over 10,000 responses. This program will never be fully done as it is a work in progress. The new standards can be found by going to Google and typing in corestandards.org. Benefits of the new core will include increased rigor and to our students will be ready for college. There is an emphasis on critical thinking. The new core provides us with clear and consistent standards. Why is this important? Jobs will require much higher understanding in math and literacy. Changes: Elimination of some concepts in an effort to go deeper with an emphasis on conceptual understanding and procedures and various strategies including the traditional algorithm. Math materials: teachers, parents, principals, and district department members reviewed math texts and classroom resources. School-based committees will then select appropriate texts resources or their community by April 15th. The math pathways were presented. Names of classes have been changed to reflect the class course instead of the grade level. How will teachers prepare? We have been preparing for 1 1/2 years. ASD took the time to really look and be ready. Training is being offered to teachers throughout the summer.
4. Student Safe Walking Route - postponed until next meeting. Mike is still working with the construction company.
5. Meeting adjourned.