

West High School Community Council Minutes (Approved)
September 14, 2020 5:30pm-7:30pm
Zoom meeting

<https://slcschools-org.zoom.us/j/91829480182>

1. Welcome and Introductions of current and prospective SCC voting members and guests.

In attendance: Jared White, Katherine Stroud, Anna Cekola, Joshua Pelton, Robert Guido, Emily Stromness, Holly Reynolds, Valerie Gates, Julie Lewis, Suzanne Attix, Michael Hughes, Philip Baker, Laura Hernandez, Ami Burton. **Students:** Juliann Cruz. **Guests:** Jay Jacobson, Ron Zamir, Michelle Tuitupou, Paula Chu, Shane Brogan, Samantha Brown, Suyin Chong, Jennifer Barrett, Nidia Pollock, Sam Hansen, Jonathan Fink, Sela Botchway, Bernard Price, Gina Tuaeone, Jessica Esparza, Tina Franco, Katie Murphy, Shalena Falaniko, Nicole Larkin.

- I. Consent Agenda

- A. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve from the last two meetings, August and May 2020; unanimous.
- B. **Fundraisers and Trips:** None

- II. Information Items

- A. **ADL (Samantha Brown):** Presentation about working with West on the No Place for Hate initiative. Schools commit to work for diversity and inclusion, plan activities to raise awareness about bias, and receive a designation at the end of the year. The program includes an assessment to allow schools to focus on what's most relevant to their communities. The first step is to form a committee and conduct the assessment. While the ADL is best known for its work to fight antisemitism, the No Place for Hate program encompasses various issues of equity and diversity. More information:
<https://www.adl.org/education-and-resources/resources-for-educators-parents-families>

- III. Discussion Items

- A. **All about the SCC (Katherine Stroud):** It is heartwarming to see so many parents interested in joining the SCC. An election will likely be needed. Will work with Jared to run the election.
- B. **Anti-vaping Plan (Robert Guido):** Last year, the state passed HB58, which focuses on curbing vaping, tobacco, and alcohol. Vaping is on the rise, and we need to do something about it. The law has three parts:

- Establishes clear policies for vaping, requiring school boards to prohibit vaping on school grounds and allowing schools to confiscate and destroy vape pens or e-cigarettes.
- Adds information about the effects of vaping to school health curriculums.
- Requires West to educate about the risks of vaping products in a prevention program and requires West to create a plan to address the causes of student use of tobacco, alcohol, e-cigarette, and controlled substances.

As part of the third requirement, the West High Initiative will include clubs, advertising, TV spots, additional classroom instruction (such as a new PXP unit), student public service, student government, school counselor guidance efforts (prioritizing 11th and 12th grades), staff professional development on de-escalation, parent involvement, and policy review. In response to comments and questions: School officials will follow school search policy and work to build trust with kids so they will report things like vaping in the bathroom. With such a pervasive problem, everyone – school officials, teachers, parents, students – must be involved. The counseling team will be here for students and can have confidential discussion behind closed doors about addiction issues, and help bridge conversations with parents. SROs will be part of this effort but will be sensitive to equal enforcement. Parents are encouraged to email Robert.Guido@slcschools.org with ideas and ways to be more involved. School board members or Samuel Hanson and Michelle Tuitupou also are available for questions or input. Robert will report back in March.

Motion to approve; unanimous.

- C. **West rebuild (Jared White):** In its 99th year, the West High building has served the community well but no longer meets the needs of 21st-century students. After years of discussion, it's time to get serious about rebuilding, for the school board to take steps to bond and hire an architect. SIC gave a unanimous thumbs up. Effort underway to get a letter of support signed by teachers. Would like the same by SCC. Alumni also in support. We have a chance, with a collaborative process, to create a building we can all connect to and connect with. Talks have been going on for at least 15 years about rebuilding West. Katherine says SCC has always been in support of rebuilding but would like to save the school's historic façade. Julie Lewis was involved in the renovation of Ogden High, an effort that included raising money from private donors to help save

historical elements that were important to the community. The SCC supports drafting a letter in favor of a rebuild.

D. Considerations and suggestions for extra goals this year (Katherine Stroud):

1. Supporting online / hybrid learning: Land Trust-funded programs already assisting this goal. Will revisit in October for any further modifications.
 2. Mental health: More critical than ever.
 3. Equity and social justice: Where the ADL education program will come in.
 4. Health and COVID safety
 5. Access to technology and the internet: Partnership with Fidelity to supplement hotspots and increase technology support. Can parents donate to help? Referred to [Give Your West High Some Love](https://west.slcschools.org) section on the homepage (<https://west.slcschools.org>).
- E. LAND Trust review (2019/2020): Jared reports that the plan is well situated to support goals and new considerations, like money set aside for mental health support.

LAND Trust allocation for 2020/2021 school year

\$40,000	Credit Recovery
\$50,000	English Language Learners (ELL) (may be under a literacy goal for more flexibility),
\$20,000	Latinos In Action (LIA)
\$46,000	AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)
\$150,000	PXP (Panther Excellence Program)
\$30,000	Professional Development
\$30,000	Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health
\$366,000	TOTAL
\$366,185	Budget

No modifications required at this time.

IV. Reports

- A. **Late Start:** Katherine reports the plan is for Late Start to move forward for the next school year. A committee is in place to figure out how to make it happen.
- B. **IB/ELP:** Jared reports that a big focus is underway on bridging content when students are off course for IB and AP classes. Communicating with

college board and others to maximize student opportunities on testing. Complicated process.

- C. **School Board:** Michelle reports that the school board is set to talk about the beginning stages of hiring a permanent superintendent and developing the school board agenda for the year. Sam, in response to a complaint about a lack of opportunity for public comments at online school board meetings, said the board will be talking about switching to a platform that would allow for public comments. He also reports the Salt Lake City Council will be discussing the State Street and 9-Line 9 Line Community Reinvestment Area, which affects property tax allocations. (<https://www.slc.gov/council/agendas/>)
- D. **Equity and Access:** Ami reports that SIC is creating a subcommittee to address equity and access issues in a more comprehensive way. The ADL needs assessment, which will be funded by the Fidelity partnership, will be a launching point for the Equity Committee. SIC will report back on this effort next month.
- E. **SIC:** Holly reports that the administration is aware of login and password issues and long waits for families in need of tech assistance. Effort underway to get more help on-site to ease long waits in phone cues.

F. Principal report

- Officials have cut the number of unenrolled students from 600 to 345, for a total enrollment of 2,554, which is lower than expected. As soon as more laptops are available, the school will start knocking on doors and make more efforts to reach the unenrolled students. It's alarming to have that many students unenrolled. A tremendous effort is underway to meet the technology need. It's a matter of access. If we can't get them online, we're denying them an education.
- Setting up a communication protocol, so parents and students can better understand how and when the school will communicate.
- Concerns about A and B schedules are mostly being resolved with one-on-one conversations. Given the online environment, this schedule provides the opportunity for the best education by reducing the number of classes and workload at a time to increase focus.
- Seeking a parent to service on a new district high school improvement committee, which will begin meeting next week. The purpose of this committee is to evaluate our current remote/pandemic schedule as we prepare for second semester, and to look at what improvements to our

high schools we should look at post-pandemic. This is an exciting opportunity to take a careful look at how we are serving our students.

- Steps have been taken to secure the fields across the street because of safety concerns over homeless camps. The move to lock the gates has sparked neighborhood concerns about a lack of pathways. We're taking the hits because we can't have homeless camps on campus. The Police and Health departments have been responsive. The LDS Church has been offering support. We're seeing much fewer problems with drug use and waste.
- A proposed sports region realignment would put West in a league with big competitive schools, but travel distance would be great. In anticipation of Late Start, West needs to be in a closer region, like No. 6 or 2. Drafting a letter making that request to the UHSAA.
- Spectators, in a limited number, will be allowed at football games.

V. Action Items

- A. Arrange for elections
- B. Approve meeting dates: second Monday of the month. Unanimous.

September 14, 2020

October 12, 2020

November 9, 2020

December 14, 2020

January 11, 2021

February 8, 2021

March 8, 2021

April 12, 2021

May 10, 2021

VI. Upcoming Events

10/3 SAT (tentative) 10/10 ACT (tentative)

IX. Next Meeting: October 12, 2020, 5:30

Agenda items: elect Chair-elect