

North Cache School Community Council Meeting
January 10, 2016 2:45 pm
North Cache Media Center

MINUTES

Attending: Terry Williams, Jake Hall, Jill Baker, Carmen Sorenson, Wendee Radmall, Teri Rhodes, Vanessa Alder and Stephanie Swainston

Not Attending: Becky Neilson, Mike Peterson, and Jennifer Beach

A motion was made by Jake Hall to approve the minutes from the November meeting. The motion was moved to the next meeting.

Terry Williams gave an update on the mascot change. On January 19th Terry Williams presented the mascot change to the Cache County School Board. Part of Terry's presentation included the results of a stakeholder's survey. The survey was sent to faculty and parents of future students. He had about 50 comments in response. Of those, two were concerns about the mascot. One was concerned that a bulldog mascot might lead to bullying and the other didn't think a middle school needed a mascot. Overall the results were positive. Terry also presented the historic significance of the mascot. North Cache historically were the Bulldogs. Terry presented a return to the old colors of maroon and white. He also included a return the old motto. Terry also has permission to return the bulldog statue to the school. He is working with the museum in Richmond to create a display of artifacts. The idea was put forward to ask community members to donate items to the display. The school board approved the change in mascot and colors. There may be changes to the school building. Terry is going to discuss painting the cafeteria and gym with JR.

Jennifer Beach put forth an item to the agenda. Her concern is will the public opinion of North Cache. There is a concern that there is a negative opinion of North Cache in the valley. As a group it was discussed why there may be a negative opinion. Some of the ideas put forth were the distance to the school, students are only here for two years, students are pulled from a large geographical area, number of students is increased from elementary school, the age group, and class size. The idea that a strong parent presences at school increases the opinion of the school. The PTA at North Cache is growing, Last year there was no PTA. This year the PTA had just 2 members at the beginning of the school year and has now increase to 12 members. The PTA is helping public relations. A survey that went out to parents about PTA involvement showed that distance to the school and time were the biggest factors in not joining. Carmen said that the PTA at Cedar Ridge helps improve the perception of the school. Terry said the PTA has helped increase the positive opinion of North Cache through increased visibility in the community. They created a christmas tree for the Cache Education Association fundraiser. Another idea to increase positive opinion is to increase parent presence in school. Right now parents are in the school very little. Usually in the front office or for a specific assembly. In elementary schools parents are usually in classrooms and more involved in the day to day operations of school. The group agreed that there needs to be more parent involvement. If

parents are in the school the perception of the school will change. The group is going to think of ways to get more parent involvement at school. Next year there will be all new students at North Cache. The new teachers from White Pine and Cedar Ridge will have to help with parent involvement. This topic was put on the agenda by Jennifer Beach. She wasn't at the meeting, so this item will also be on the agenda of February's meeting.

Terry Williams gave an update on the talent show. There had been a rumor that the talent show had been canceled. Students started a petition to have the talent show. The talent show was never canceled and had always been planned for March. The petition from the students was unnecessary. The administration likes the talent show because it is inclusive for all students.

Terry Williams also gave an update on calendar items. Make up days for the snow days will be discussed on Thursday at the meeting of the calendar committee. Most likely the make up days will be February 17 or between trimesters. The make up days won't be during spring break because it is not good publicity. Terry also mentioned that having school on a national holiday may also create negative publicity. If school make up days interferes with teacher prep days, teachers can access edivate to gain those hours. Parent Teacher Conference is scheduled for January 23rd from 3 to 9 p.m. Half of the time will be in the gym and the other half will be in classrooms. There will be a half hour dinner break. The schedule is the same as other parent teacher conferences. February 14th and 16th will be 9th and 8th grade ski days. Jake Hall reminded everyone that next week is positive mental health week. Registration for White Pine and Cedar Ridge starts soon. White Pine is scheduled for January 26 and 27 and Cedar Ridge is February 2 and 3. Each grade will have a different day. Counselors and administration will be available during registration.

Terry Williams is beginning to create the Trust Land Plan for next school year and he needs input from the committee. AMP has been a way to get adults in school. Math, Science and English are the main focus of monies spent. Terry went through this year's plan to review how money was spent. The committee discussed the idea that successful schools have lots of parents involvement. We want to include this idea into next year's plan. North Cache is receiving lots of technology next year with the transitions of schools. The Trust Land money will be used to increase the number of adults in school. The AMP program has been a way to get adults into school and also support remediation. The plan will include AMP and teacher training/ professional development. Terry is going to work on the plan and present it at the February meeting.

Terry wants input on how to use homeroom the best, Open gym has been an incentive used, but it is not popular. Currently the library is an incentive. It is a hands on homeroom, where the students make things. Wendee discussed Pine Time at White Pine. Students get their planner stamped and have to attend the homeroom that corresponds with the stamp. If there is no stamp they can attend an enrichment activity. There are usually 7 to 10 activities each week. Each teacher is responsible for an activity or study hall. Every Monday all students have study hall. Activities are only available Tuesday through Thursday. The students are accountable for their planners. Parents also come and help with activities. Another program at White Pine is

during lunch. The last 15 minutes of lunch, students with 3 missing assignments are required to go to ISP and work on those assignments.

Terry also wants input on after school programs. Carmen discussed Cedar Ridge after school program. The focus is academic. Tuesdays and Thursdays all teachers are available for tutoring from 2:15 to 3:10. Students can go to any teacher for help during those times. There are also clubs for students to attend.

Terry made the motion for the February meeting to be moved one week later. It was agreed to keep the time and place of the meeting. Wendee seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

The Trust Lands Plan for North Cache is on the North Cache website.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was placed and approved

Next meeting has been scheduled for February 21st at 2:45 p.m.