

Midvale Elementary
School Community Council
January 11, 2018

Present: Margaret McCann, Karen Rodriguez, Haley Bridge, Stephen Brown, Melanie Kelsey, Debbie Johnson, Amy Buckley, Debbie Johnson, Laura Garcia, Marisol Toribio, Alma Balbuena, Carrie Wagner, Heidi Sanger, Chip Watts

The minutes were reviewed. Debbie asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Chip motioned to approve. Heidi seconded. There was a vote to approve the minutes, It was unanimously approved,

The Safe Walking Plan was reviewed. Several people noted that many children are not crossing at crosswalks on Center Street, especially from the new apartment building. Victor, a liason, has walked with the children and have spoken to them about it. He will be informed so that it can be reviewed. Karen indicated a similar problem on Main Street.

Haley brought up a problem with the sprinklers in the park. They can't walk through the City Park to school because sprinklers are often on at that time in the Spring. Steve mentioned that the city can make improvements and changes to the sprinkler times.

The parking lot was discussed. It was clarified that it is a one way street by the middle school field. Employees, parents and students should know this and change their routine. Near the school, parents and children cross between cars. This is very dangerous. Many cars double park thus exacerbating the situation. Chip often stands and asks people to keep moving and not park to keep traffic flowing.

Steve indicated that the middle school wants a gated and locked fence between the middle and elementary school parking lots. Most everyone expressed displeasure at this. Carrie and others mentioned that they have middle schoolers and there is minimal to no overlap between the schools' traffic patterns. The group also was unhappy that it is hard to drive all around both schools, the one way entrance from Wasatch Street. Donated land was initially planned to widen the exit and alleviate traffic congestion. Making it one way by the school district made it so that this end was not achieved. The group agreed that we did not want a gate and it was not warranted anyway.

DIBELS was discussed. DIBELS is a snapshot of reading fluency. 68% of our students are not reading as well as they should. Senja Merrill, the achievement coach has seen teaching and improvements that have made some big differences. DIBELS testing will be the end of January.

DWSBA-District Wide Standard Based Assessments have been called Canyon's Sage test. Last year's Sage (state of Utah's Standards based test) gave Midvale Elementary an F grade. The students were testing there in the high teens and low twenties, Current predictors show marked

improvement for this year. Numbers range from mid 30's to high 40's! Chip expressed that a lot has been done differently. Teachers are working collaboratively to help students master concepts and not just cover topics.

Steve indicated that volunteers are not being supported and helped from the school office. Although the cafeteria has been helpful, Info/flyers aren't being disseminated. Especially of note was the lack of support for Red Ribbon Week. Volunteers are feeling disheartened. Another parent reported that they have had to wait a very long time in the office before being helped or even spoken to. Chip would like the office to be a warm, inviting place for all, Heidi and Chip will try to effect change there.

Debbie asked how behavior is currently. She thought it seemed better from the beginning of the school year, Chip said that progress with behavior requires changes from students and teachers both, Teachers are texting for help less and handling things on their own more. The majority of kids are on task when he goes in a classroom. Debbie noted her classes can keep the doors open because other classes are quieter in the hall. Jacqui, the behavior assistant, was especially working with 4th graders with behavior problems. She has had them work and help in kinder and preschool. This benefits both students and has been very positive. Marisol noted that she is very happy with the 4th grade teachers. She especially likes that her student has a pen pal.

A parent reported dog doo on the school grounds. The open nature of the school grounds makes this hard to stop after hours. Chip will discuss options with the custodial staff.

Debbie asked for a motion to close the meeting. Steve motioned and Margaret seconded. The meeting was closed.

The next SCC meeting was moved from its previous date to February 15 at 6pm.