

# School Community Council—Hillcrest High School

**November 20, 2019**

## **In Attendance:**

1. Greg Leavitt
2. Brant Thomsen
3. Julie Cluff
4. Suzanne Riches
5. Rick Graham
6. Nikki Huff
7. Karen Conder
8. Jan Hansen
9. Denise White
10. Amir Zaidi
11. Stacey Timmerman
12. Jason Dong
13. Mont Millerberg (Canyons school board representative)

## **Meeting Notes:**

- Brant Thomsen opened the meeting.
- Suzanne Riches facilitated a presentation/discussion on Digital Citizenship and the Hillcrest educational plan for this year. Members were given a packet with the Hillcrest plan and other helpful documents.
  - Members watched a five-minute district video on the role of SCC in overseeing Digital Citizenship in their school.
  - One highlight of the Hillcrest plan includes six short lessons on digital citizenship to be presented to students during APP over the next six months. These lessons will be about 10 minutes long. Subjects include: Media Balance and Well Being, Privacy and Security Online, Digital Footprint and Identity, Cyberbullying and Hate Speech, News and Media Literacy, Relationships and Communication.
  - Suzanne Riches will continue sending out monthly email to teachers about timely topics. She will also email a longer article that faculty will read and comment on.
  - Hillcrest has also given out fliers at Parent/Teacher Conferences on this topic, posted a bulletin board on cyberbullying strategies outside the library, and presented announcements about digital citizenship during the district Digital Citizenship Week.
  - SCC discussed district filters. The council also noted the district Acceptable Use policy which students sign at the beginning of the year.
  - SCC members also asked questions about infractions. Dr. Hansen and Mr. Leavitt answered questions.

- Main points on “Digital Citizenship and the School Community Council” handout compiled by Canyons School District were highlighted and discussed.
- Living Leaders
  - Brant pointed out that a Living Leaders information sheet was included with the agenda e-mailed to the council members.
  - Council members can contact L. Su Veenstra for more information.
  
- Brant opened the next agenda item: CSIP Assessment Criteria.
  - Mr. Leavitt led the discussion.
  - Hillcrest’s overarching goal is to increase the graduation rate to 88%. We are currently at 85%. The Hillcrest plan includes:
    - Assessments that are graded and are able to be retaken.
    - 70% of all class grades will be based on 4 tests. The other 30% will be based on class assignments. This will ensure that mastery has been reached.
    - Common formative assessments will be given every 6-7 class periods, with a summative assessment at semester’s end.
    - Progress will be measured against state averages on the ASPIRE and ACT tests.
    - ACT Review sessions will be held.
    - Disclosure statements will be driven by weighted grading scales, retakes and school-wide rules.
    - Hillcrest will also see an increase in AP/IB/and CE participation.
    - See SCC document, “CSIP Criteria” for a discussion of action items for teachers as determined by the BLT in the pursuit of these goals.
    - See SCC document grid describing action steps planned to facilitate desired outcomes.
  - Mr. Leavitt presented historical Hillcrest data on Utah Standardized tests. (This information is available through Mr. Leavitt.)
    - Hillcrest turn-around groups have been pulled out for examination of relevant data.
    - Hillcrest is about 3-4 percentage points below state averages on SAGE and ASPIRE.
    - With regard to the ACT, we meet the state average, but hope to compare more favorably with the district average for other schools.
    - Special Education grading scale expectations will be modified.
  - Math Instruction will be increased. We will move toward students having a math classes every day, focusing on increased instruction in the core and less on electives.

- Brant introduced Agenda Item: Mobile Phone Policy
  - Mr. Leavitt led the discussion, noting that we need a more formal phone policy. He will ask for formal SCC approval in January.
  - The district policy says that we should not be taking phones away from students, so we will work within those parameters.
  - Hillcrest is purchasing Yonder bags for teachers. This is a bag that locks. The bags are small, but will easily hold a phone.
  - Students will be warned to put phones away when they are affecting learning.
  - This policy will apply to academic classwork only. There will be time for students to use phones during non-academic time.
  - If students persist in phone use, they will be warned. If they do not put the phone away, the teacher will put the student's phone in a bag and lock the bag. The bag will be left with the student and the teacher will unlock it when class is over. This will help teach responsible phone use.
  - A school-wide policy will be written and distributed for comment. (The policy was later included in the December 6<sup>th</sup> Husky Strong newsletter.)
  - The final draft will be voted on and adopted, probably in January.
  - Each teacher will receive 3 bags, which should be enough to act as a deterrent.
  - We will see how this works. We are aware that students sometimes bring dead phones to substitute for a live phone. Hopefully, we can resolve these issues.
  - Mr. Millerberg suggested that we do need to prepare students for the future where they will be expected to moderate their mobile phone usage.
  - Other SCC members agreed and noted that managing millennials in workplaces has proven to be a very difficult problem.
  - We need to begin addressing these issues now. Mr. Leavitt likes this plan because it allows the phone to remain in the possession of the student, yet locked away while the student is focusing on school work.
  - Parents will be notified when an infraction occurs.
  - If necessary, administration may also get involved where necessary.
  - Mr. Leavitt noted that teachers will decide some issues, such as whether phones are allowed in APP period.
- Brant suggested that SCC needs a December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Other members concurred.
- Brant moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and approved.

Minutes prepared by Suzanne Riches