**Minutes**

**Upland Terrace Community Council Meeting**

**May 13, 2011 and May 19, 2001**

Attending May 13, 2011: Lauri Hansen, Kim Gardner, Nancy LeBaron, Cheryl Phadnis,

JaNeanne Dazely

Absent: Andy Carbaugh, Jessie Keller, Jessica Kerr, Prasad Trilokekar

Guest: Christy Baxter, Joe Wood (next year Council member)

Attending May 19, 2011: Lauri Hansen, Kim Gardner, Nancy LeBaron, Andy Carbaugh,

JaNeanne Dazely, Prasad Trilokekar, Jessica Kerr

Absent: Cheryl Phadnis, Jessie Keller

Guest: Joe Wood (next year Council member)

At the end of the May 13 meeting it was decided that we needed to continue the meeting on the 19th, so minutes from both days are merged and contained in this document.

1. Math Tutoring Program Report- The math tutoring pilot program ended during the first week of the CRT window. At that time Robin Allred prepared and sent out a survey to the parents of students who participated and to the teachers of students who participated. She then compiled the results and compared individual survey responses to how often the student attended. Interestingly, parents of students who attended infrequently had a lower opinion of the effectiveness of the program than those whose student attended often. The teachers conveyed favorable opinions. Christy Baxter then filled us in on other specifics regarding the program. As the Council discussed the new information some questions, suggestions, and recommendations surfaced. 1) It is recommended that Skyline High School be contacted now to prepare for next fall. This will enable high school students who are interested in this opportunity to choose it early in the year. This past spring many of the high school students had already committed to other service projects before hearing about our need. 2) It is recommended that the program begin in October and end in the spring (about March 31) to align with the high school schedule. It was hard to encourage tutors after the end of the high school grading period (quarter) that ended about March 31 this year. 3) It is recommended that a pre and post assessment be used to measure growth. CRTs may not be the best measure of growth that comes directly from this tutoring program. 4) It was suggested that the Wednesday morning tutoring session be conducted differently due to the fact that most of the students who attended in the morning had also been to the after school session the day before and had completed all the work their teacher had given them. The suggestion is to consider having the morning session be conducted in the computer lab so students could use some of the engaging online helps available only there. Some of these include Rainforest Maths and Multiplication.com. 5) Volunteer parents called “Dad’s & Digits” or “Moms & Math” could help with the Wednesday morning session. This group would have to be coordinated by a supervising teacher (who would receive a stipend). A request to the PTA for help in getting the word out to parents and getting parents signed up should be made. 6) Stipends should continue to be made to teachers who supervise these efforts and tutor. It was also mentioned that student privacy issues should be addressed as this program resumes in the fall.
2. Lower Grade Math Incentive Program- The pilot for this program was successfully conducted this past year and the Council recommends that it be continued. It is recognized that the Community Council does not have the wherewithal to implement this program and needs help from another group. JaNeanne Dazely conducted the pilot and recommends a committee of 7 and a coordinating leader. With that in mind the Council will send out a letter to the teachers to see if there is one that would be willing to coordinate a parent committee that would further the program. There will be a different letter that will go home to parents asking for interested parties to contact the school. (Kim Gardner will write the teacher letter and Andy Carbaugh will write the parent letter.)
3. Reading Specialist Update and Reading Aide Evaluation-Since the reading specialist position will be increased to a ½ position. The question was asked if we still need 29 hours of a reading aide who is only focused on lower grades is needed or does the position need to be expanded. The Council would like the reading aide’s duties to expand to helping students in higher grades who are struggling readers. Small blocks of focused time to work with intensive older students should be scheduled.
4. Technology needs/ donations/ surveys- When Mr. Popp visited the Council several weeks ago he talked to the Council about possibilities that exist for donations to our school. These donations needed to be focused on predetermined needs. The first step in this process was to determine what technology needs teachers had. A survey was developed and given to each teacher. A second survey was sent out to determine if there were other needs that might exist in addition to technology needs. Once these were presented to the Council, it was determined that much more discussion is still needed.
5. Last Community Council meeting the Council voted to reduce the size of the Council so it will be in line with the recommendations in the manual. There will be four parent representatives and 3 school employee representatives next year. Last meeting the Council members present voted 5 to reduce the size, 1 abstention, and 2 later email votes to keep the Council the current size. Next year’s council- The Council has two groups represented: those employed by the school and parents. Changes in the parent representation- Prasad Trilokekar has indicated that if there is an interested person who would like to fill his spot on the Council he would like to give him or her opportunity. The parents on the Council are the ones who make these decisions and will be in communication about filling this position. Jessica Kerr, Joe Wood, and Cheryl Phadnis will be those on next year’s Council who will make this decision. Changes in the employee representation- Nancy LeBaron has asked to be released from the second half of her term. Lauri Hansen will take over the last half of that 2 year term. Kim Gardner’s term will end in June. Kim is willing to serve again and the faculty will need to be polled to see if there are others who want to serve on the Council. The faculty must vote on this position.