



*Orchard Elementary  
School Community Council Meeting  
January 10, 2017*

*Members Present—Aaron Stevenson (Principal Representative), Jeff Shirley (Employee Representative), Melissa Jones (Employee Representative), Melanie Hunter (SCC Chair), Rachael Sulz (Parent Representative), Megan Snow (Parent Representative)*

*Members absent: Susan Phillips, Cressent Page, Gabriela Larsen*

- 1. Welcome**—Mr. Stevenson welcomed all members of the Council to the meeting.
- 2. Update on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning (Apollo Project)**—Mr. Stevenson began by talking about the types of Engineering Design (STEAM) projects that are happening in the classrooms throughout the building. Mrs. Jones elaborated on the projects in her classroom, in which she presents a question, has the kids solve it, and then has them think before they begin the task. She loves it and having access funds. Mr. Shirley echoed Mrs. Jones sentiments mentioning how excited he's seen the children act when they are engaged in an engineering design task from Kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> Grade. Mr. Stevenson said the teachers have really embraced this opportunity and have been really grateful with the funds we've allotted to them to engage in STEAM projects.
- 3. DIBELS Across the District**—Mr. Stevenson said we can use Amplify (a DIBELS Database) to track the data from K-3, and as we're coming to use this data more extensively in the screening of students and their abilities, we've found that other schools in the district have picked up DIBELS for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade for the cost of \$12.50 per student. Many other schools in the Orem cluster are seeing good gains in their 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades using DIBELS. He said

something to consider is if the cost would be useful to apply to our upper grades in the purchase of DIBELS. Mrs. Hunter asked if the \$12.50 is what we pay for the test, but Mr. Stevenson said this cost is associated with the Amplify account to track the data. He said another problem with the assessment would be assigning the teachers to do all the testing for their individual classes. He said we would have to find a way to test the upper grades so that it would provide data, but also would not impact them in a way that would detract from classroom instruction. Mrs. Snow asked how much it would cost to certify teachers for the test, and Mr. Stevenson said that Mr. Shirley is certified to administer the 2-3 hour training to all certified teachers. Mrs. Jones said she loves that there are standardized testers that come from the district and these testers do the same thing with her students that they do with the rest of the district. Mr. Stevenson had a thought that we could look into hiring these same district testers to come in and test our upper grades. Mr. Shirley mentioned that we would have to find out how long it would take to test each of the upper grades students. Mr. Stevenson said we would have to consider if there was too much instructional time taken out of class to do these tests and how it would impact the students. He mentioned that we will be getting an increased amount of money this year from Trustlands, probably more than we have received in the past. Mrs. Flickinger asked if Trustlands was associated with how many volunteer hours we put in. Mr. Stevenson said the Trustlands is associated with our October 1 enrollment and we get an amount based on per pupil enrollment. Mr. Stevenson has said that teachers have appreciated the funds we've dedicated to para-support and anticipates using funds for this aspect this year. Mrs. Jones said she has really appreciated having extra para support in her classroom since we have adopted the extended day Kindergarten schedule.

- 4. Grant Possibilities**—Mr. Stevenson said that as a result of the work we have done with the Apollo Project, there is a likelihood of bringing in additional technology, resulting in a 2-1 device to student ratio in our upper grades. He said that if that happened, we would look at some of our existing Chromebook and iPad carts and assign them to grade levels to increase the utilization of these devices. Mrs. Hunter asked if increasing the security in the building would come from these grants, and Mr. Stevenson said that this money comes through Capital Outlay. He said he submitted a proposal for keyless entry access points outside the building, and also upgrading our locks to high security hardware. He said another thing he has put on the proposal is wall restoration to improve the cleanliness of our hallway walls. He said

these are projects that involve a lot of funding, but this does not come from a grant, but comes from Capital Outlay.

**5. Technology Plan**—Mr. Stevenson explained that our current plan for technology is focused on the premise of keeping students safe on the Internet. He compared it to driving a car, and how there is always potential for danger, but there are things you can do to mitigate danger, like making sure licensed people are at the wheel, and that there are laws that govern how to use a car. He said it's very similar to technology use in the classroom, since it's a necessity, but it's dangerous if not used properly. He mentioned that we have instituted an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) to help hold students accountable for their online choices. We also have presentations that come from companies like NetSmartz. He noted that we have content filters in place (iBoss), which filters out the content disseminated through student use. He gave a handout to each member containing legislation given to community councils regarding filtering and management of our district student devices. Mrs. Hunter asked if the Chromebooks are used individually or by groups, and Mr. Stevenson said it depended on the activity and the assignment given by the teacher. Mrs. Hunter also asked if student owned devices are utilized here, and Mr. Stevenson said we haven't found it to be effective to have them used in our setting at this time, so we currently don't allow them at Orchard. Mr. Stevenson said we've really tried to educate our students on making proper online choices. He explained the entire packet which outlined all the areas of our technology plan, including management systems in place, supervision, student education, parent education, and the decision making responsibility of an SCC regarding a school's technology. He asked for feedback from the Council regarding our technology use and safety, and if they Council felt we could better utilize time and resources to improve our technology. Mrs. Hunter said she's worked in the past with clearing information off of iPads, and how we need to look at continuing to encourage parents to come in and help do these things. Mrs. Sulz said it could be as simple as a parent coming in once a week to help monitor the content and clear it off of a particular classroom's devices. Mr. Stevenson finalized by clarifying the request of the Council to do the following: better cleaning of the devices, and additional parent and student education regarding online safety.

**6. Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm. The next meeting will be held on February 22, 2017 at 3:45 pm.**