

2014-2015 Community Meeting

MINUTES

Date: February 23, 2015

Time: 6 pm, Library

Attendees: Kristie Allen, Kelley Brunner, Norene Goldstone, Janice Osieja, Jill Rees, Joan Roth, Janet Schwertley, Marni Bealer, Lisa Abeln, Tammy Thaete, Kim Bonagolski, Tracy Langer, Stephanie Fierro, Kim Hartwell, Kat Glover, Mike Becker, Christian Becker, Christie Strack, Jason Pattison, Suzanne Pattison, Yael Berko, Paulina Tiffany, Christopher Tiffany, Gayle Sjoblom, Jennifer Ensley, Liane Calderon, Susan Gregor, Shelly Clayton, Cheryl Ouzounis, Debbie Gross, Steve Schauer, Lou Maldonado, Mike Church, Marni Bealer, Lan Thomas



District Budget

Kelley Brunner
Principal

Mrs. Brunner greeted the group and thanked them for attending.

Mrs. Brunner informed those present that the Kyrene School District needs to reduce their budget by \$5.2 million dollars. This dollar amount will be split up among schools and district departments.

Colina originally had to reduce budget by \$55,212, however, with the decision to return to 45 minute specials District wide, the amount was changed to \$31,990.00. This is due to the fact that special area teachers will teach more sections per week with the 45 minute model, resulting in fewer special area teachers needed within the District."

Mrs. Brunner discussed this with her teachers at several meetings and they discussed ways to make this reduction without affecting the student learning.

Each school had to put a plan together on how they could reduce their school budget.

Some ways could be reducing costs of the following:

Instruction Assistants, Teachers, Crossing Guards, Librarian, Lunch Duty, Supplies-Custodial, Library Books, Capital Budget, Administration, Front Office Staff, Supplies-Special Areas, M&O, Sub Budget-School Business, Sub Budget-ACA Absence.

Although Colina wanted to continue on the 50 minute instruction model for specials, the majority of the schools in the district voted that the schools should be reduced to 45 minute model. That alone reduced the budget by \$21,516. This means that each special will have 5 minutes less of learning.

The District CFO provided Mrs. Brunner with 4 years of budget data to show where Colina stood.

Each school proposal is due to the district by 2/27 for the Kyrene CFO to review.

Dave Bealer questioned IT costs as he has tried to meet with the Kyrene School District to discuss several ways budget could be reduced in IT/Phone costs. He has never received a call back. Mrs. Brunner asked Dave to contact Jeremy and Janet would bring this matter up at the next District Meeting.

Mrs. Brunner's proposal to the district showed the following:

Reduction in Crossing Guard: savings of \$1750
3 Lunch Duty vs 4: savings of \$3000
M&O: savings of \$1450
Library Media Tech (20 hours vs. 25): savings of \$3,750
Supplies – Special Area: savings of \$4500
Sub Budget-School Business: savings of \$1025
Capital Budget: savings of \$5450
Front Office Staff: savings of \$7500
Library Books: savings of \$3200
Special Areas (district vote for 45 minutes vs 50): \$21,516

Mrs. Brunner has asked the PTO for \$12,000 in gifts and donations to offset the cuts, especially the supply budgets.

Some attendees were confused and curious how the tax credit works. Mrs. Brunner explained that the tax credit money cannot be used towards any of these budget items but instead goes towards field trips, clubs, assemblies, student activities. Mrs. Brunner and Janet will email Tax Credit information to the 2 list serves to get this information out to parents.

A couple of parents questioned fundraising. Colina does not do any direct selling but instead family dinner nights, basket auction and direct donations. Jill showed them where they can find this direct donation link on our website.

Joan let the group know that we have very poor parent participation with our PTO and school. Jill asked the parents to continue to attend these meetings so their ideas and opinions can be brought to the table.

Jill informed the group that the PTO has \$72,508 in savings/checking accounts. The PTO spends somewhere around \$30,000 +/- a year. She and Mrs. Brunner both advised that PTO funds cannot go towards any type of salary.

Mrs. Brunner and Mrs. Thaete have applied for grants to also earn money that way.

Some parents were concerned about Mrs. Brunner and Mrs. Thaete helping in the lunch room and outside as crossing guard as this took away from their daily duties. They suggested the budget does not get cut in crossing guard and lunch duty but rather in M&O .

One parent expressed her concern that this will be an ongoing thing vs. 1 year. Mrs. Brunner explained that at this time we are looking at this for 1 year and are unaware what next year will bring.

Jill motioned to approve Mrs. Brunner's request for \$12,000 from the PTO. Joan second the motion and the group all approved.