



Community Council Meeting  
Minutes Feb 28, 2023  
12:30 p.m. Start time - Final Meeting

Meeting was brought to order by Chair Natalie Tallakson at 12:35 p.m.

Attendance: Natalie Tallakson (Parent), Nikki Nelson (Parent), Mindi Barker (Parent), Alice Ericksen (VP), Scott Porter (Parent), Paul Hurt (Principal)

Excused: Julie Jenson (Parent)

Housekeeping:

- Minute recap from last meeting
  - January meeting was discussed and those who were in attendance gave their takeaways from the meeting. Parents liked hearing from the student council and listening to what they had to say. The tour of the Student Support Areas was also very well liked. Parents felt like it was such a great opportunity to see the school and all it had to offer for students.

Business:

- School review for Advanced Students
  - Paul discussed what the school offers to students who are advanced. DMS offers AP Spanish and Chinese classes. There are honors classes for students to excel in. There is the math counts program for students who are advanced in mathematics. DMS also has high school classes that are available for students to take early and advance that way.
- Review memo to Legislature
  - Before the memo was discussed the final plan for the year was reviewed so that council members could sign the plan.
    - Goal is to seek improvement over each year and to increase 1% minimum yearly on the school report card.
    - There is a \$14,000 carry over from the previous year due to not being able to hire a para position to use the funds for.
    - There will be approximately \$118,000 for next year and it will be allocated to salaries, paras, and to supplement extra 7ths.
    - Any excess will be used for technology
    - A digital signature email was sent to all council members to sign as well as the hard copy sent around for an ink signature.

- The memo to the Legislature was discussed. All council members approved of the letter. Please see attached letter.
- Other Items: Q & A
  - The council started planning for the 2023-2024 year.
    - It is noted that parents Nikki Nelson, Scott Porter, and Julie Jenson will be leaving as they will no longer have students at DMS. The council is grateful for the 2 years they served while at DMS.
    - It was noted that Mindi Barker has served as chair elect this year and will return next year as Chair for the 2023-2024 year as long as the nomination is approved by vote at the beginning of the year. Natalie Tallakson will also be returning as a Parent representative.
    - Suggested names for possible Parent reps were Amy Weight and Jamie Cook. Next year's board will reach out to them.
  - It was suggested that the 2023-2024 meetings be moved to mornings to accommodate schedules better.

Next Meeting:

- Thank you for serving 2022-2023 Community Council

Meeting Schedule:

- No further meetings needed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Scott Porter. Natalie Tallakson seconded motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Minutes compiled by Nikki Nelson (Parent)

# DIXIE MIDDLE SCHOOL



Senator Don. L Ipson  
[dipson@le.utah.gov](mailto:dipson@le.utah.gov)

Representative R. Neil Walter  
[nwalter@le.Utah.gov](mailto:nwalter@le.Utah.gov)

Representative Norman K. Thurston  
[normthurston@le.Utah.gov](mailto:normthurston@le.Utah.gov)

Representative Rex P. Shipp  
[rshipp@le.Utah.gov](mailto:rshipp@le.Utah.gov)

Representative Walt Brooks  
[wbrooks@le.utah.gov](mailto:wbrooks@le.utah.gov)

February 27, 2022

Representatives:

On behalf of Dixie Middle School and the entire community, we thank you and the Utah Legislature, for the continued support through the School Land Trust.

The Dixie Middle School Community Council (the "Council") is tasked with the responsibility of overseeing the use of these funds in accordance with the School Land Trust Program. The Council works diligently to ensure the best use of the funds to positively support and impact our students' learning experience and enhance academic excellence.

In the 2022-2023 school year, the Council allocated \$118,000 to additional teaching positions and support staff to increase student learning, create a safe learning environment, and continuously improve the teacher and student success at Dixie Middle School. We feel that these funds are essential to the continued success of our teachers and students, and the data supports these feelings. When looking at our data, you will see that our students have tremendous growth from year eight to year nine, which are the years that are in our control.

In our last Council meeting, the student council shared with us that they work to make our school community feel like a second home, where everyone is welcome. As representatives of our school, your support for the School Land Trust helps us to achieve that feeling. There is no doubt that the financial support we receive has had a direct and positive impact on our students. We look forward to your continued support.

Thank you,

Dixie Middle School Community Council

By: Natalie Tallakson

Natalie Tallakson (2022-2023 Chair)

PAUL HURT  
Principal

929 SOUTH 100 EAST  
ST GEORGE, UT 84770

BRIAN GUNNELL  
Counselor

ALICE ERICKSEN  
Assistant Principal

435-628-0441  
WWW.DMSEAGLE.ORG

JASON JENSEN  
Counselor