Community Council Meeting

Overview

The council reviewed literacy progress, curriculum options, and potential uses of approximately $99,000 in Land Trust funds.

Literacy Progress

- Midyear testing will take place in December rather than January; results were not yet available. The literacy proficiency goal is a 2% increase from beginning to end of year.
- Third-grade reading plans and intervention groups are underway, with progress monitoring showing growth. Interventions run Monday through Thursday, with Friday progress monitoring; groups are generally three or four students.
- Fourth grade is piloting WIN time rotations focused on vocabulary and comprehension. The council discussed whether the approach could benefit other grades.
- The intervention room added UFLI for early readers, and classroom books purchased with funds are in use.

Curriculum and Funds

- The school is reviewing its language arts curriculum after five years with CKLA. Options are CKLA, third edition, and a Houghton Mifflin Harcourt curriculum called Into Reading.
- CKLA was described as strong in content-based learning but weaker in writing, spelling, and grammar. HMH was noted for stronger writing, grammar, and science materials.
- Land Trust funds are currently tied to literacy. A math goal could potentially be set for next year; whether the plan can include two goals remains uncertain.
- Potential fund uses discussed were curriculum, salaries, and supplies. Participants favored curriculum and supplies alongside salaries, but the final allocation and vote were deferred until costs and a draft plan are available.

Other Topics

- A parent raised concerns about repetitive lunch options. The council discussed collecting family feedback through PTO and sharing it with cafeteria manager Cathy Waters, while noting that meal requirements may limit changes.
- The next council meeting is scheduled for February 8 to review a draft plan; a brief follow-up is scheduled for May 10 after RISE testing.

Action Items

- Verify whether next year's Land Trust plan may include both literacy and math goals, enabling funds to support math as well as literacy. (@Melissa Macchia)
- Arrange presentations from the potential language arts curriculum vendors and obtain direct pricing and implementation details before finalizing the funding plan. (@Melissa Macchia)
- Create a parent poll on school lunch variety through the PTO newsletter and related channels, then present the feedback to cafeteria manager Cathy Waters to identify feasible menu changes. (@Melissa Macchia @Carly Rowe)
- Contact Alpine Church about obtaining donated or replacement classroom supplies, including dry-erase markers and other general supplies. (@Melissa Macchia @Jordan McDonald)
- Develop the draft Land Trust spending plan for the next year, including funding options for curriculum, salaries, and extra supplies; obtain the required numbers and prepare it for review and vote at the February 8 meeting. (@Melissa Macchia)
- Send calendar invitations for the February 8 council meeting and the May 10 follow-up meeting. (@Melissa Macchia)

Outline

Literacy Progress and Interventions

- December midyear testing; literacy goal is a 2% proficiency increase.
- Third-grade reading plans are in place; monitoring shows student growth.
- UFLI supports early readers, and purchased books are being used in classrooms.
- Fourth-grade WIN time rotates students through vocabulary and comprehension groups; expansion to other grades is under consideration.

Language Arts Curriculum

- Review compares CKLA, third edition, with a Houghton Mifflin Harcourt option.
- Discussion covered CKLA's content-based strengths and writing, spelling, and grammar gaps, as well as HMH's writing, grammar, and science materials.

Land Trust Allocation

- The current goal restricts spending to literacy; next year's goal could potentially include math, though the possibility of two goals is unresolved.
- Curriculum, salaries, and supplies were discussed as possible uses of approximately $99,000.
- The final allocation and vote will follow review of costs and a draft plan.

Meeting Schedule

- February 8: Review the draft plan and vote.
- May 10: A brief follow-up after RISE testing.