School Community Council Training

It’s more than just LAND Trust 2019-20
Why do School Community Councils exist?
School Community Councils are required by law.
Congressional Land Grant Intent

- School in Every Township
  - Section 16
  - Ohio (1803) – Minnesota (1858)

- The Arid West
  - Sections 16 and 36
  - Oregon (1859) – Wyoming (1890)

- The ‘Really’ Arid West
  - Sections 2, 16, 32 & 36
  - Utah, Arizona and New Mexico
5 Types of Land

• Private
• Federal
• State
• Sovereign
• Trust - held in perpetuity for the school children of Utah

SCCs receive LAND Trust dollars to allocate to the school’s greatest academic need. These dollars are generated off of land that was granted at statehood for the benefit of public school children of Utah in perpetuity.
The purposes for school community councils are:

• To build consistent, effective collaboration and communication among parents, employees and administrators

• To allow parents an opportunity to be actively involved with the school in their children’s education

• and...
Academic Achievement
2019-20 LAND Trust Distribution

Current state-wide distribution $82,663,051

FY 17: $2,479,523
FY 18: $3,191,207
FY 19: $3,620,163
FY 20: $4,027,344
Increase of 11%

About the Trust; LAND Trust Distribution
Who else is has a role?

- Canyons Board of Education
- Superintendent
- Business Manager – distribution of funds
- School Performance – receives and reviews TSSP and LAND Trust plans, prepares distribution for Board review
- Public Engagement Coordinator
  - Training & compliance
  - USBE TAC committee
  - Receives and reviews the Digital Citizenship and Safety reports
Permanent School Fund

SITLA
Manages Trust Land

SITFO
Invests Trust Fund

SCCs
(local school district)

USBE
School Children’s Trust Section

LANDS Trust Protection and Advocacy Office

Utah Legislature
Trust Action Committee (TAC)
Utah PTA
Who is on your council?

A) Parents
B) Employees
C) Principal
Council Organization

Parent members must exceed the number of faculty members (including the principal) by at least two members

- Size of your council determined by each individual school, but at least six members
  - Principal + 1 employee = 2 employees
  - 2 + 2 additional = 4 parents
Membership

A council only has voting members, who have been duly elected. Anyone else is not technically part of the council.

On your rosters – secretary position

- **IMPORTANT:** this is for a non-voting school secretary – NOT A MEMBER OF YOUR COUNCIL

"Ad-hoc" members

- Other admins
- PTA
- Counselors
- CTE
- SROs
Terms for Members

A term is 2 years.

No term limits, but must have a student in the school at least 1 of the 2 years you serve.

Need to try to keep staggered terms.
Elections

Employees:
Teacher/Employee Members, except the principal, are elected by employees. Principals serve and fill an employee position but are not elected. They have full voice and vote.
You can include others who are not elected: secretaries, counselors, SRO.

Parents:
When? In the spring and completed before the last week of the school year OR near the beginning of the school year. Timeline of elections must be consistent for at least four consecutive years.
Where? At the school; Canyons does not currently have a system for online voting.
Who can file? Parents with a student attending the school at least one year of the 2-year term of service.
Who can vote? Parents of students attending the school or who will have students attending (if elections are held in the spring).
Council Assignments

- Prepare, approve and submit the following plans for annual approval by the Board of Education.
  - Teacher Student Success Plan
  - School LAND Trust Plan
  - SNAP (safe walking route)
  - K-3 Reading Plan
- Digital Citizenship and School Safety discussion & reports
- Advise and make recommendations to school and district administrators and local school board
- Provide notice of elections and meetings
- Provide reports to parents
- Legal compliance

The Work of the Councils
Brand new for 2019-2020 school year and distinct from the LAND Trust program, the Teacher Student Success Act (TSSA) provides earmarked funds directly to each Utah public school, allowing them to address needs unique to their school and target their own particular goals.

In order to qualify for the money, schools within Canyons School District must adhere to the parameters set forth in the Board policy and accompanying Board approved framework.
Digital Citizenship & School Safety

In October/November, SCC will review the School Safety and Digital Citizenship report from the district. Principal will add any school specific information.

SCC will discuss the report. You may want to invite your SRO and/or counselor/psychologist to this conversation.

Ask questions and receive answers, may take a meeting or two.

When all this in complete your principal will fill out your Digital Citizenship and School Safety report on the dashboard. These reports will be used to assess the information, concerns, priorities and a synopsis used for the Board of Education and District employees to respond and/or assist in solutions.

This work should be completed before December break.
Action Plans

Every Plan has an Action Plan

• Identify the needs
• State the goals – may use SMART goals
• Measurement of success
• Outline steps to achieve goals
• Identify funding
  ➢ Research based programs & practices
  ➢ District specific requests – or goals

The Work of the Councils; Agenda planning tips
Input on School and District Issues

(iii) advise and make recommendations to school and school district administrators and the local school board regarding:

(A) the school and its programs;
(B) school district programs;
(C) a child access routing plan in accordance with Section 53A-3-402;
(D) safe technology utilization and digital citizenship; and
(E) other issues relating to the community environment for students;
COMPLIANCE

*Always* updated on school website:

1. Council Members names and
2. Contact info (#1 & #2 updated constantly)
3. Meeting schedule for the year
4. Final Report from previous year
5. Approved minutes from last 3 years
6. Rules of Order & Procedure and/or Bylaws
7. Dollar amount received THIS year
8. Opportunities for parents to serve on SCC and how they can directly influence the expenditure of funds

The Work of the Councils; SCC compliance
Update Monthly

Update website at least 1 week prior to next meeting

- *Upcoming meeting agenda*
- *Notice of meeting; time, place and date*
- *Draft minutes from previous meeting*

*All items are posted in the office and provided to parents without internet access*
Rosters Online & State Website

Update continuously (principal & chair)

- If people don’t participate
- If Bylaws call for a change
- If you replace people
- Before you approve plans in spring and sign signature page

Keep Ratio of 2 more parents

Update often and absolutely by February
Writing SCC Agenda

• Every month: review implementation of current year’s plans – where are you in budget/expenditures? Are any amendments needed? Are we on track to meet our goals?

• Check compliance items – are they correct and up-to-date?

• Oct/Nov/Dec: school safety/digital citizenship discussion; question follow-up; report

• Every month: is there data to report that will help inform us about current plans or to write next year’s plans?

The Work of the Councils; agenda planning tips
http://www.canyonsdistrict.org/scc

Your SCC Handbook can be found at this website and many questions answered here. You are always welcome to contact:

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