**Heartland Elementary**

**School Community Council Meeting**

**January 20, 2021**

**Attendees:** Buddy Alger (Principal,) Jess Vidal (Assistant Principal,) Andrea Robinson (Chair,) Glenna Roundy (faculty,) Marlane Forsyth (faculty,) Michelle Whitchurch, Kate Walker (Co-Chair,) Janiece Atwood (Secretary-prepares minutes,) Rebecca Simons

Excused: Steph Berg, Whitney Fenech

**Meeting Start Time: 5:03 p.m.**

**1. Welcome and any introductions -**no new attendees

**2. Approve last meeting minutes -**A copy passed around for all to read and initial. Buddy will keep this copy.

**3. Covid-19 Update (Vaccine, Numbers, etc.) -**The first round of vaccines almost done. More will be completed on the next couple of Fridays. 1st doses only so far. Low cases here at Heartland, we're doing great. Frequent handwashing, distancing and sanitizing has worked! The vaccines are done on Fridays incase they get a little sick and need a sub on Mon. We're prepared to handle that just incase. Quarantine- new guidelines now: if in a mask-on-mask situation, there is no need to quarantine. The number of those cases getting sick were so low that quarantining is unnecessary. Because of masks and distancing and sanitizing, we only have to majorly watch/track close proximity situations such as recess and lunch. Lunch workers watch this and we keep video footage for 2 weeks to help monitor this.

**4. Reading Instruction with "Really Great Reading" and "95%" -** ("HD Reading", "The Blast") We realized we needed to do more to get proficient readers. The skills needed were not present in "Journeys," so we started this program for better Core Phonics Instruction. Grades K-3 at least 30 minutes/day. Glenna-Some kids still struggling, but they were struggling before (due to absences, not trying, slower learners, etc.) but most are very excited. Kids find it fun and very helpful. Marlane- KG-Phonemic awareness-working on blending sounds and sight words. Kids are enjoying it and it is effective. Diebels testing tomorrow-Buddy is excited to see the progress so far and see where we need to continue to focus. Teachers shifted beautifully and kids, too. Grades 4-6 are getting intense reading interventions. Making sure kids are proficient readers before leaving elementary.

**5. Heartland Promise Standards (H.P.S.) and Student Promise Proficiency Scales (S.P.P) -** H.P.S.-Create a set of standards that we want to ensure that all students are learning. Taking Utah core standards and deciding what are MOST important things to teach and learn. S.P.P. Scales- Students can own their own learning. Own and track their own learning on a tracking sheet (track their own data for progress, mastery, student-led conferences.) Data sheets will come to SCC meeting to show us-we can see progress, see data, discuss, etc. Teachers will make these trackers. Teachers will be clear about what they're teaching, students will be clear about what they're learning.

**6. Digital Citizenship and White Ribbon Week (proposal Feb. 22-26) -**White Ribbon Week didn't happen last year due to the closure. New ideas for teachers and students to do. Net Smarts does an assembly each year. It's pretty good, but they were defunded from the Utah Legislature... then refunded by the Utah Legislature, but with changes. Now they've partnered with another group. Buddy used money we saved last year by not doing this week to purchase curriculum lessons and viewed, $199.00 (will eventually be $999.99.) It's great stuff! 30-35 minutes each for the teachers to do, 3-5 lessons depending on the grade. All outlined for the teachers to do: 7-10 min. reflection time (students work alone,) another video engages students in dialogue, and then discussion time as a group. Guided questions provided. Very professional. Basically, the guy on the video teaches that we have to find balance with all things digital-social media, etc. know when to put down the device and interact with friends, family in person, etc. It is age-appropriate because each grade has their own video lessons. He really likes the 6th grade video because it deals with the current popular apps (Musically, etc.) Teaches safety in "My Online Neighborhood' (different than your actual house neighborhood.) Michelle-hoping that next year can we do this early on in the year since we do so much online these days (possibly in September or October, rather than in February.) Maybe do a follow-up or "refresher' later in the year. Buddy suggests 2 options: 1) each day, complete a 30-45 minute lesson (example: #1 Monday, #2 Tuesday, #3 Wednesday...) OR 2) do 1 lesson per week and take the whole month of February instead. Kate-spacing it out gives time for reinforcement, time to practice, ask questions, exposure at home... it deserves the time spent on this. Marlane-it may be too time-consuming for a teacher to do it all in one week. Where will we find these 30 minutes? Probably better once a week for this reason (Kindness Week last week was fun, but cut into class time.) 30 min./day is too much for KG kids. She may break it up into 15 min. increments. Buddy thinks that's great and appropriate to adjust based on kids' ages, attention spans, teacher's class schedule, etc. Glenna-great that there's time allotted to discuss and let the info sink in (the reflection time, discussion time.) Michelle and Rebecca-would like parents to get the info outlined so that we know what it's all about and can help to reinforce this at home. Buddy-it'll be in the newsletter and each grade will have paperwork about it as well. Overall decision: The whole month of February, rather than one week, taught on Mondays when kids are normally working on Second Step (this time Tue-Thur is for specials, so the time is already built in to the schedule.) An introductory piece goes home to parents first.

**7. Safe Walking Routes: Jess Vidal, Assistant Principal Review -**there is a potential change to safe-walking routes after the last PTA meeting. Our plan is due to district Friday. Each year between SCC, PTA and the city of WJ-we have to have a safe walking plan for pedestrians, bikes, scooters, etc. So far, nothing has been changed from last year's plan. It details all areas north, south, east and west of Heartland. 1300 W (SW corner by 7-11) 7000 So. all the way to Maverik on 78th South. North end-just past Winchester, 1300 West, Westborough Way to 70th So. There are a couple of sections missing sidewalk; this is noted previously. Routes walk kids through the neighborhoods as much as possible. We currently have 3 main crossing guards: Entrance to school on 70th, behind School, and 1300 W (SW corner by 7-11) 7000 So. Problem areas where kids have to walk through gravel/dirt where sidewalk missing, specifically west side of 1300 W, north of Heartland. 3 major problem areas. Solutions: 1) a walking bridge-this has been funded, but we need status-update so Buddy will follow up. 2) Callie Drive and Erickson Park Dr.-there is currently no guard or stop sign or indicator of school in area and the road bends making it hard to see far ahead 3) Bora Bora and 1300 West has a crosswalk but no guard. We have about 6 kids who would benefit from a guard/flags/flashers here. It's a wide shoulder, so even if a car stops for a pedestrian, the car behind him may attempt to pass him and could potentially hit the pedestrian. It looks like a passing lane, but actually just a very wide shoulder. This spot is far from both street lights so it's not well-lit, making it even more dangerous. We need to petition for a guard, but hoping at least get flags or a light. Worst-case-scenario is the city may remove the crosswalk altogether. This would not be our plan or our goal, but it might keep kids safer so that they're not encouraged to cross there without a guard. Buddy will present this problematic area at his meeting.

**8. Land Trust 21-22-Teacher Survey Needs -**These funds pay for specials/aids because teachers requested it last year. He assumes they'll request it again this year. L.T. pays the other half of the art instructor's salary-the teachers and kids all love her. She connects well with the core concept that the teachers are teaching. We seem to have the help we need right now, due to hired aids, but it will be nicer next year with parent volunteers. It changes the culture when parents are present so we look forward to having them around again.

**Reflective Items -** Kate-PTC went good. A huge undertaking for the teachers-same amount of parent participation as in the past (in-person) so that's good. Thoughts on the 4 days-parents liked it, it was so flexible and plenty of time options. Especially with only 1 teacher to coordinate with; unlike at the middle school level. Marlane-parents were intimidated by Zoom so maybe offer phone call options for parents. Teachers didn't work any extra hours than normal; just spaced it out differently. Easier to focus on a Zoom call rather than with gym noise and book fair chaos and kids running around. Undivided time with your child's teacher. Good that report cards were sent home in advance.

Kate-The shortage on subs problem we discussed and expected in the last meeting has gone well. We've done awesome! When a long-term sub was here, the teacher taught on Zoom while the sub managed the classroom, so the kids were still with their friends (unlike online school from home,) but learning from their own teacher. He had to do this with 2 different classes. Got new Heartland subs; been able to use repeated subs a lot more!

**Meeting Adjourned: 6:14 p.m.**

**Next Meeting Date: March 3 & April 28, 2021**