Comm Council Minutes September 13, 2023

In Attendance – James Judd, Kathryn North, Erin Sabey, Miranda Taylor, Rebecca Tibbits, Yuri Jenson, Lindsie Luke, Jennifer Potter, Anna White, Janalee Dorrity
Absent – Catherin Dalton, Dena Blood, Aaron Cheatwood, Jennifer Larsen, Alicia Talsma

After welcoming and getting to know everyone, Mr. Judd mentioned that we need to elect a chair and a vice-chair for this year. Erin Sabey made a motion to nominate Rebecca Tibbits for chair, Miranda Taylor seconded it and all in attendance agreed. Then Rebecca Tibbits nominated Erin Sabey for vice chair, Jennifer Potter seconded it and all in attendance agreed.

Jim then went over our mission statement, which is: "All Highlanders achieve at high levels" and "All Highlanders prepared to excel at WHS." Then he reviewed our goals, which are "80% of non-impacted students are proficient on RISE testing" and "all incoming students that passed RISE testing last year will pass this year."

Jim showed graphs that manifested Timpanogos Middle School has improved every year in math, science and English. It also shows that we are above the state average in each subject as well. When we were compared with 21 other schools of similar size and student population, it showed that we moved up every year. In 2023 we were 4th in English and 6th in math and science. In a Salt Lake Tribune article, there was only 1 school district that showed growth during the Covid pandemic and that was Wasatch School District.

Mr. Judd then went over our Plan for Success. It includes unit planning, climb form (shows if students learned the concepts taught), shield time (students can receive extra help in needed areas) and our community liaison – Yuri Jenson.

The next meeting was scheduled for November 2, 2023.

Comm Council Minutes November 2, 2023

In Attendance – James Judd, Kathryn North, Erin Sabey, Miranda Taylor, Jennifer Potter, Dena Blood
Absent – Catherin Dalton, Aaron Cheatwood, Jennifer Larsen, Alicia Talsma, Rebecca Tibbits, Yuri Jenson, Lindsie Luke, Anna White, Janalee Dorrity

The Sept 13, 2023 minutes were approved and all in attendance agreed.

Jim talked about our attendance and behavior data and compared this year to last year. So far this year, our average school attendance is 92.76% which is up from last year. The average attendance last year was 90.47%. The number of tardies have unfortunately gone up for all grades since last year with most of them occuring during 1st period. The total number of office referrals have gone up slightly since last year with 8th grade having the most. Most referrals are for skipping classes with being disrespectful and harassing others following after. The total number of students being pulled for shield 9 times or more has gone up since last year from 23 to 34.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 11, 2024.

Comm Council Minutes Jan 11, 2024

In Attendance – James Judd, Erin Sabey, Miranda Taylor, Jennifer Potter, Dena Blood, Aaron Cheatwood, Jennifer Larsen, Yuri Jenson, Lindsie Luke, Anna White, Janalee Dorrity
Absent – Catherin Dalton, Alicia Talsma, Rebecca Tibbits, Kathryn North

Aaron Cheatwood made a motion to approve the Nov 2, 2023 minutes and Dena Blood seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Jim started off by saying that the counselors have developed a way to track a lot of student data which has been very useful. He then turned the time over to Lindsie Luke in the counseling department. Lindsie talked about how the students can scan a QR code if they would like to be called down. The counselors had 672 appointments between Sept and December. They have started a new procedure that if students are suspended, they have to talk to a counselor before they come back. Some of the other programs counselors are doing are:

- Running shield classes where they focus on friendships, self awareness, play games, etc.
- PBIS rewards for no tardies, 4.0's, honor roll/on a roll
- Teaching lessons in classes such as high school prep, suicide prevention, stress management, resiliency, etc.
- Help students overcome barriers like non English speaking students, learning disabilities, health problems or issues at home.

Jim talked for a few minutes about the governor's request regarding students not having cell phones in the classroom and asked others opinions on this topic. It was agreed that it would be very difficult to police and there would be parents upset about their students not having cell phones. Jim said he felt like we really need to address the physical and emotional well being of the students and how it would be helpful, in doing this, to have more counselors.

Jim then talked briefly on the fact that we would be approving the school land trust plan during our next meeting. He reviewed that all of our money goes towards 2 aides, our community liaison (Yuri Jenson), and Teaching Tuesdays for our teachers.

It was decided that our next meeting will be held March 28, 2024.

Jennifer Potter made a motion to adjourn and Aaron Cheatwood seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Comm Council Minutes Mar 28, 2024

In Attendance – James Judd, Rebecca Tibbits, Miranda Taylor, Dena Blood, Jennifer Larsen, Yuri Jenson, Jennifer Potter, Lindsie Luke, Anna White, Janalee Dorrity
Absent – Catherin Dalton, Alicia Talsma, Kathryn North , Erin Sabey, Aaron Cheatwood

Anna White made a motion to approve the Jan 11, 2024 minutes and Jennifer Potter seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Mr. Judd talked about how Timpanogos Middle School was recognized as a model PLC school. TMS has been working on this for 3 years and is very proud of this accomplishment. There are only 2 middle schools in Utah that have received this award and only 14 in the United States.

Jim then talked about our School Land Trust Plan for the 2024-25 school year. There are currently 3 goals which, 2 of those goals will be on next year's plan. The first one is, "show growth of reading lexiles as measured by the Reading Inventory. (Academic Areas/Subgroups) The 2nd goal is "80% of non-impacted students will be proficient on RISE tests." The 3rd goal was "improve relationships between parents and school" but will be rewritten to show a more academic focused goal. The money we receive from school land trust mainly goes towards salaries for a teacher and 2 aides which help implement these goals. The remainder of the money goes toward teacher trainings and intervention. Jim mentioned that everyone should be receiving an email within the next month to approve the new School Land Trust Plan.

There was an interest from a parent in going over the library policy. Jim brought up the district library policy which is found on the TMS website. There are also links on the website if someone would like to have a book reviewed, serve on a committee or request an appeal.

It was decided that the next community council meeting will be May 2nd at 2:45 pm.

Jennifer Potter made a motion to adjourn and Anna White seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Timpanogos Middle School
Community Council Minutes
Sept 12, 2024

In Attendance: Jim Judd, Kathryn North, Miranda Taylor, Dena Blood, Erin Sabey, Wesley Mangum, Jennifer Potter, Wesley Mangum, Eric Campbell, Janalee Dorrity

Jim Judd talked a little bit about the school land trust training videos and how one of the items we need to take care of is to elect a chair and a vice chair. Erin Sabey nominated Kathryn North to be the chair and Dena Blood seconded it. Then Erin nominated Miranda Taylor for vice-chair and Dena seconded it. Everyone in attendance agreed on both nominations.

Jim then talked about how one of the main functions of community council is to decide how to spend school trust land money, which is income that is generated from state owned land. This year we expect to receive approximately $170,000.00. The money we receive goes towards supporting our goal, which is: 80% of non impacted students will achieve proficiency on RISE and all students who were proficient last year will continue to be proficient.

Some of the action plans that support this goal are:

#1 - All teachers will develop and publish common unit plans with help from our instructional coaches. $22,000.00 is allocated toward a library aide, which will give Hadly Bingham the time necessary to be an instructional coach.

#2 – The school will facilitate an MTSS to provide needed support to each teacher. $22,000.00 will go toward a paraprofessional who will coordinate and manage the intervention program. We are also focusing on making the invention system and house system a way for students to have fun as well.

#3 – $105,000.00 goes toward a family and community engagement coordinator which, at TMS, is Estefanya (Yuri) Jenson.

#4 - $18,487 is for a leadership team (Guiding Coalition) that will oversee all aspects of the school improvement plan.

Jim also went over our mission statement which is: all students achieve at high levels and all students are prepared to excel at WHS.

Jim then talked about the launch of the "Education Elevated" campaign that the district has initiated. This is a celebration of outstanding achievement in improving student performance throughout the district. In less than a decade, WCSD has become one of the highest achieving school districts in the state. Last year we earned the #1 spot in language arts, #3 in math and #7 in science proficiency.

A parent asked how the new phone policy is going so far. Jim said it has been very successful with very few phones having to be taken away.

The council decided that our next meetings will be scheduled on November 14th, Jan 16th, March 20th and May 29th if needed.

Dena Blood made a motion to adjourn and Jennifer Potter seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Timpanogos Middle School
Community Council Minutes
November 14, 2024

In Attendance: Jim Judd, Miranda Taylor, Dena Blood, Erin Sabey, Jennifer Potter, Crystal Freeman, Janalee Dorrity
Absent: Kathryn North, Wesley Mangum

Dena Blood made a motion to approve the Sept minutes and Jennifer Potter seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Mr. Judd went over the attendance data. We are at approximately 92% average attendance for the year, which is very similar to the last few years.

He then talked about tardies. He wants students to realize that it's important to be in their seat and ready to learn when the bell rings. The total tardies for term 1 is 3375 compared to last year, which was 5370. We are counting 1st period tardies this year, which we didn't last year, so Jim is very happy that the number of tardies have gone down. Tardies have gone down overall the last couple of years since TMS has been focusing on encouraging students to be on time.

Lunch Detentions are up a little this year. There have been 159 lunch detentions compared to last year, which was 103. Part of the reason is that we're including 1st period tardies this year. If students have 3 or more tardies in a week, they have to go to lunch detention.

Jim then went over the behavior data. There have been 119 behavior offenses, which is about 10% of the students. This is approximately the same as last year.

Mr. Judd then talked about the Shield data. TMS has been trying, this year, to make Shield more beneficial. Therefore, teachers are pulling more students to come to their class if they have missing assignments, low grades, or any other needs. TMS has decided to be more intentional where students are going and not just letting them attend fun, non-beneficial Shields. There have been 242 students who have been assigned to a Shield 9 or more times, which has gone up quite a bit from last year.

Our next community council meeting will be Jan 16th, 2025.

Jennifer Potter made a motion to adjourn and Dena Blood seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

TMS Community Council Minutes
January 16, 2025

In Attendance: Jim Judd, Miranda Taylor, Dena Blood, Wesley Mangum, Janalee Dorrity
Absent: Kathryn North, Erin Sabey, Jennifer Potter

Dena Blood made a motion to approve the Nov 2024 minutes and Miranda Taylor seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Jim went over data and first talked about absences so far this year. The number of absences are about the same as last year. Tardies have gone down significantly this year, more than likely due to having a 2nd vice principal. The two vice principals have been able to focus more on 1st period tardies, which were not counted in the past. Lunch detentions are up this year because they are enforcing the tardy policy. Behavior Incidents have gone up slightly from last year.

Shield Data – More students are getting pulled for shield because teachers are making the use of shield more intentional this year. Students are called to classes if they have missing assignments or low grades instead of having a non-productive period.

We have had very few problems with students having their phones out during class, the lockboxes have been very successful.

The number of hispanic students with a 4.0 GPA or who have made the honor roll have increased since last year with the help of our Family and Community Engagement Coordinator – Yuri Jensen.

Jim then talked about our new Smart Pass system. The Smart Pass was utilized with safety in mind. The safest place for a student is in the class with a teacher. The safety of students goes down and misbehavior goes up when they are less supervised. For example – lunch, before/after school or hallways between classes are the times we have the most behavior problems. Students now have to create an electronic pass on their ipads if they need to go to bathroom, get a drink, see the nurse, see a counselor, etc. The system allows students a set amount of time to do these activities and the system tracks how much time students are out of class, if they are continually meeting other students, etc. It also limits the amount of students in the hallway at the same time. Since implementing this program, we've had no vandalism in the bathrooms and students seem to be out of their classrooms less.

Our next community council meeting is scheduled on March 20th. During this meeting we will need to discuss the School Land Trust program for next year.

Dena Blood made a motion to adjourn and Miranda Taylor seconded it.

TMS Community Council Minutes
March 20, 2025

In Attendance: Jim Judd, Kathryn North, Miranda Taylor, Dena Blood, Erin Sabey, Crystal Freeman, Janalee Dorrity
Absent: Wesley Mangum, Jennifer Potter

Miranda Taylor made a motion to approve the Jan 2025 minutes and Dena Blood seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Crystal Freeman did a presentation from the counseling dept. She said they discovered last year that the incoming 6th graders lacked skills in emotional regulation, resilience and executive functioning toward academic skills. To address these issues this year, counselors came up with 4 points of action. They are:

1. Summer Challenge – all 5th graders coming into 6th grade this school year were asked to do 5 things over the summer to build confidence.
2. Counselors have given 3 lessons in 6th grade classes which address these topics.
3. Counselors met with all 6th graders within the first 100 days of school.
4. At the end of each term, 6th graders with a 2.0 GPA or below are called into the counselor's office to see how they can help them. These students are automatically pulled into shield classes as needed.

Crystal said they have seen some good results. 60% of students with a GPA of 2.0 or below have raised their GPA by .5. Also, 6th graders are not having as many urgent needs to meet with counselors. The counselors plan to continue meeting with all students who have a GPA of 2.0 or below at the end of terms. Jim mentioned that the district has found that students struggle the most when they are transitioning into new schools so the counselors action plan has definitely helped with this situation.

Jim then presented the school land trust plan for the 2025-26 school year. It is:

1. Hire a paraprofessional aide to run the library so it frees up Hadly Bingham to do her instructional coaching job. ($22,000)
2. Hire a paraprofessional aide to run the intervention program. ($22,000)
3. Keep Yuri Jenson on as a family and community coordinator. ($105,000)
4. Have the Guiding Coalition team oversee all aspects of the school improvement plan. ($18.487)

Erin Sabey made a motion to approve the school land trust plan for the 2025-26 school year and Kathryn North seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

There will be no more community council meetings this year unless a need arises.

Kathryn North made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Miranda Taylor seconded it.

Timpanogos Middle School
Community Council Minutes
Sept 10, 2025

In Attendance: Jim Judd, Kathryn North, Jaime Runyan, Lauren Melton, Wesley Mangum, Charlotte Friedman, Janalee Dorrity

Not in Attendance: Erin Sabey

Jim Judd said that Community Council consists of 4 parents, 1 teacher and 1 counselor. One of the items we need to take care of is to elect a chair and a vice chair. Jim said that the chairperson is important because they are a bridge to the community. He went on to say that we will get approximately $183,000.00 from the school land trust and it is up to the committee to determine the best use of these funds. Kathryn North then nominated Lauren Melton to be the chair and Jaime Runyan to be the vice chair. All in attendance agreed.

After there was a discussion about members ability to apply for a Wasatch email if they would like. It helps prevent scam emails from going to their personal emails. There were a few who filled out the paperwork for a Wasatch email.

The committee then decided on dates for future meetings. The dates that were decided are:
Thurs, Oct 23rd, Wed, Jan 14th and Wed, Mar 18th. The committee will meet at 2:45 pm in the library at TMS.

Jim then talked about the tardy policy at TMS. He feels that if students learn to follow small rules, it becomes easier to follow bigger rules. He then asked if anyone had questions or anything they would like to put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Someone asked about the cell phone policy and Jim said that it is going very well and there have been very few problems with implementing it. Someone else asked about AI usage. Ms. Friedman, a science teacher, talked about the benefits of AI and how it hasn't really been a problem so far in her classes. Another member asked if there are rules regarding the usage of SLT money and Jim said it does have to be tied to student achievement. Then there was a brief discussion about after school programs and Jim said the biggest challenge is for students who ride the bus to find transportation home after. Another member asked how the shield program works. Jim said that he will discuss that at our next meeting along with going over our current SLT plan and achievement data.

Jaime Runyan made a motion to adjourn and Lauren Melton seconded it. All in attendance agreed. The next meeting will be Thurs, Oct 23rd, at 2:45 pm in the library at TMS.

Timpanogos Middle School
Community Council Minutes
Oct 23, 2025

In attendance: Jim Judd, Lauren Melton, Jaime Runyan, Kathryn North, Erin Sabey, Jill Tanner, Wendy Spencer, Charlotte Friedman, Janalee Dorrity

Jaime Runyan made a motion to approve the September minutes and Lauren Melton seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Jim went over our mission which is all students will achieve at high levels and students will be ready to attend high school. He then went over the goals and 3 action steps to help us meet our goals. Action Step #1 – All teaching teams will receive coaching from our instructional coaches. Charlotte Friedman showed graphs of the way teachers and coaches track how students are doing and how teachers can improve their teaching methods. Action Step #2 – Shield & Intervention classes for students. Jim said how Time + Instruction = Learning. With our intervention classes, we try to make learning constant so time and instruction are the variables. The purpose of shield is to give students more time and/or more instruction in whatever classes they need more help with. Goal #3 – Connections Factor. When students start to lose interest in school, data has shown that we need to reconnect with the students. Jim showed a chart that displays how all teachers collaborate and/or focus on each student who is at risk. Teachers try to connect with students and build better relationships with them.

Wendy Spencer talked about how the counselors try to meet with the at risk students who are struggling. Many have problems at home that they are dealing with and the counselors try to form relationships with these students and see how they can help. They also have these students make goals and track their own progress.

With the new high school opening next year, there were a few questions about school choice. Jim said that school choice will be open and every family will be able to choose which school they would like their students to attend. He said that the schools may not have the same student population to begin with but, with the anticipated growth, the two high schools should be about even by 2030.

Jaime Runyan made a motion to adjourn and Lauren Melton seconded it. All in attendance agreed. The next meeting will be January 14th, 2026.

Timpanogos Middle School
Community Council Minutes
Jan 13, 2026

In attendance: Jim Judd, Jaime Runyan, Kathryn North, Erin Sabey, Charlotte Friedman, Janalee Dorrity

Absent: Lauren Melton, Wendy Spencer

Jaime Runyan made a motion to approve the October minutes and Charlotte seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Jim talked about the 3 tiers of instruction. Tier 1 is the initial teaching and the majority of kids should be able to understand the concept. If the majority of kids don't understand, then the teacher knows there is a problem with teaching or content. Tier 2 is the group that didn't understand and they get additional instruction through shield. Jim then showed a video explaining how shield works. Basically, teachers identify which students need extra help and then they sign them up for their class during shield. If a teacher hasn't called them into their class, students can sign up for a shield of their choice. It was asked if parents can see what subjects the students are being pulled in to during shield. Jim said it would be up to the student to show their parents. Tier 3 are kids that are extremely low due to learning disabilities or are non proficient in English, etc. These students are in specialized classes.

Jim then went on to talk about the Connection Factor which is where teachers or counselors try to connect with students who are really behind or struggling with various issues. It was shown that the number of students who need to connect with someone has gone down due to the success of the program.

Kathryn made a motion to adjourn and Jaime seconded it.

The next meeting will be held March 18th at 2:45 pm.

Timpanogos Middle School
Community Council Minutes
March 18, 2026

In attendance: Jim Judd, Lauren Melton, Erin Sabey, Wendy Spencer, Janalee Dorrity

Absent: Jaime Runyan, Kathryn North, Charlotte Friedman,

Lauren Melton made a motion to approve the January minutes and Erin Sabey seconded it. All in attendance agreed.

Jim talked briefly about the Highlander Academy that TMS will be implementing next year. It was discovered that incoming 6th graders were lacking some basic skills they need to start middle school. The Highlander Academy will be a required 6th grade course that will teach incoming 6th grade students some basic skills needed to be successful at middle school. The coaches at TMS (Jamie Hagan and Hadly Bingham) met with teachers to go over data on incoming students to help plan what is needed to implement this program.

Jim then went on to talk about how a "Chunk & Chew" program has been very successful at TMS. It teaches students to organize a lesson into smaller chunks and summarize what each chunk says. This help students understand lessons or articles better.

Jim then went over next year's (2026-27) School Land Trust Plan. We will have a little less money because of the fact we will be having less students but the plan will basically be the same. The estimated money we will receive (approx. $183,000) will go towards a Family and Community Engagement Coordinator (Yuri Jenson), 2 paras – one to manage the library and one to manage the Shield program. The remainder will go toward Guiding Coalition and Professional Development.

The meeting was then adjourned.