

City Academy Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Time 6:00 PM

Location: Google Meet

Attending: Steve Grizzell, Dennis Pederson, Lillian Scoville, Sonia Woodbury, Alyson Genovese, Debbie Eckert, Jay Cichosz, Sophie Phipps

Tech support: Holland Olsen

Call to order: 6:05 PM

November minutes approved.

Review of Title I status and our Title I School Improvement Plan (SIP) goals – Sonia Woodbury:

- City Academy has school-wide Title I status, based on >40% low-income status students.
- Through the State Board of Education the Title I Federal program funds help support the enactment of our SIP.
- Our SIP goals:
 - Goal 1: Improve student achievement to at least 80% of students passing all of their core academic classes in Q4 2021 (striving toward goal of 90%).
 - ~50% of CA students failed one or more core classes in Q1 2020.
 - This is not unique to CA, as a recent article in the SL Trib described. <https://www.sltrib.com/news/education/2020/12/05/if-you-have-students-salt/>, nor is it likely unique to Salt Lake or Utah, due to the challenges of delivering school content during a pandemic.
 - Funds help support fulltime counselor, job-embedded professional development, Boost program to focus on progress in English and Math (7th & 8th), study room (extended day when learning is in-school)
 - Goal 2: Progress graduation rate toward a goal of 90%.
 - Goal 3: Retain annual student transfer rate <15% and year-to-year retention ≥ 75% (State Charter School requirements).

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Transfer Rate	19.3%	12.7%	18.6%	17.9%	12.8%
Retention Rate	75.7%	87.1	75.8%	69.5%	73%

- Crucial parts of the federal mandate for Title I are 1) a school connection to parents and families, and 2) parents have a right to understand the qualifications of the teachers. At CA all teachers are licensed to teach in the State of Utah and teach the subjects in which they are licensed.

Open Discussion on the goals and Title I mandates:

- The students who are struggling this school year correlates to lack of class attendance.
- There is a lack of engagement in the on-line classes.

- How do we increase connection with the students to assist their learning?
- Is there a parent-to-parent connection that could help?
- Although this is a systemic problem (not just at CA), is there something that could be done uniquely at City Academy since we are such a small school?
- Suggestions: revisit expectations, small group in-person activities (for students and/or parents, e.g. open mic night), fun assignments uncoupled from academic expectations, increase access to extra-curriculars, survey parents to determine what the challenges are with the current learning environment, parents asking “second questions”
- Next meeting will be in-person for those interested, with the option of joining on-line

Adjourned: 7:10 PM