Elkton Charter Council
October 23, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Travis Heath, Cynde Pakros, King Phelps, Candy Weatherly, Andy Boe, Devin Hunt, Melissa Whitley

King Phelps will serve at this meeting as a community advisor and would like to be a permanent committee member. If approved, we will move to a 5 member council.

Online Learning Platform

- Currently using Peak 12. Courses cost $350/course. The fee comes with a certified teacher.
- Scott Cooper will look at other products that are available.
- Acellus is used by North Douglas.
- Peak allows kids to have teachers assigned to them.
- We use Peak for credit recovery, foreign language, requirement fulfillment for transfer students and for enrichment.
- Most enrichment happens at UCC other than Peak.
    - King Phelps asks what would be the purpose of changing providers?
    - Andy Boe states that kids have had problems with the teachers on Peak and communication. Drain likes Acellus but it doesn't come with a teacher and then there is a staff assigned to it and there are gripes from the teachers because it is not their curriculum.
    - Travis Heath states that if it is the same price and there isn't an instructor on their end, it would still be better than the one Drain has even if there is a lack in communication.
    - King Phelps asks who is attempting communication, concerns if it is the student.
    - Andy Boe states that Lisa Olson is the intermediary and helps. The kids are sometimes not that good at communication pieces. We found with foreign language there are kids who are attempting to use the AI piece and finding work arounds.
- Scott Cooper will look into our online class options other than Peak.
    - Cynde Pakros asks how Latin is progressing this year.
    - Andy Boe states that it is okay. There are a lot of kids in Latin. We are working through the cohort. There are complaints about that as our foreign language choice but that is the teacher that we have.
    - King Phelps states that he wishes we had a Spanish speaking teacher because that's what we need.
    - Andy Boe states that he has a link and it's the advertisement for Peak and the council can check it out. After Scott Cooper returns with information, we will make a decision and perhaps not make a change.

Friday Academy at UCC

- Review of the UCC Friday Academy programs available
- How to get the students to want to participate in this opportunity
    - Get parents here and begin discussion with the juniors and seniors for next year

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- Roseburg High School takes most of the slots in the program because of their distance proximity.
    - Possibly provide gas cards for kids to drive themselves so they're not reliant,
    - A van to go to Reedsport and bring kids on Friday mornings and then back to Reedsport in the afternoons
    - Provide money for fuel to parents.
        - King Phelps suggests we furnish transportation from wherever to here. Then we have control of that. Then we get them back there. We avoid needing a licensed bus driver if we're using a school van.
        - Travis Heath states that the fuel card is a good idea but it would be abused.
        - Andy Boe explains how that's been handled in the past is they get a certain amount at the gas pump in Elkton so use it wisely.
    - How can we incentivize to include more kids aside providing a van for transportation.
        - King Phelps states what can you take away from the school that would encourage them as a benefit to go to UCC?
        - Devin Hunt asks can we center the scope of their senior project?
        - King Phelps says it will be more beneficial than some of the projects I've heard throughout the years. They're getting college credits there and they can transfer into college with further credits.
        - Andy Boe states that we will look up if we can offer dual credit.
        - Cynde Pakros says that the problem she is having with Robotics is sports. She has talked to coaches and they're willing to provide flexibility with practices to allow time for robotics events but the kids want to go with basketball and are not looking at the scope of future possibilities.
        - King Phelps states that he would expect 95% of the kids in robotics to have no interest in sports.
        - Cynde Pakros says she has 3 robotics members interested in playing basketball. It's the appeal. But this isn't going to get you far.
        - Andy Boe states that it is a problem. That might be a conversation we can have about time. It's a full week in one day. We run into that with sports, too. It's just the way it has been.
        - King Phelps states you need kids to have gone through the UCC Friday Academy to be an ambassador and sell it.
        - Cynde Pakros states that if we're having a career night, we don't just have someone from UCC but we have someone from OSU Forestry, mechanics, ambulance and Seven Robotics.
        - Andy Boe says this may go along with the last thing which is our graduation requirement presentation. Bringing folks in from the community to talk about the UCC Friday Academy and graduation requirements. Braden Groth does dual credit and we are working on AP but we are not there yet.
        - Candy Weatherly shares she knows it's important for kids to make some of those AP credits. Some of the kids are spending the amount of time they're spending at UCC, it should count as math or science credits.

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- King Phelps states that if you've got the credits to get into college you can get a job at Roseburg Lumber or the carpenters union or the electricians union and this is not being pushed. Less than 105 of the kids in high school should not be thinking about college. But they should be looking at going into the trades.
- Candy Weatherly says if we did a career night it would need to be done in the spring so kids would opt for the academy for fall class sign ups.
- Andy Boe states that if we did a career fair, that's one thing. If we do a night that's focused on this program that's different. We get the people from UCC here. We can get people here who have been a part of the program. A plan on transportation. We can get coaches involved so they an help and understand.
- King Phelps says that I think we can get a plan to get people transported to the event and some way to encourage them to get there.
- Andy Boe says that there are things he can do as Athletic Director so on Friday game days we can make sure kids can get to both events.
- Cynde Pakros says that that is part of it. Our kids are driven toward sports now, but they need that overlap and to understand this better and how to make this work.
- Andy Boe states that we will host a Career Night and a UCC Friday Academy Night.
- Candy Weatherly shares that years ago we had a careers class for freshmen which everything was put out there and each kid in the class was responsible for getting a trades person or any occupation to come speak with the class while the kids are young.
- Andy Boe shares that when we had Gear Up college visits it makes the transition to college easier for students.
- Cynde Pakros states that she agrees.
- Andy Boe states that he would like to see senior projects have a piece that relates to what they are doing to do after high school and for kids to show how they planned those next stages out.
- Candy Weatherly says that years ago it started out as something more career oriented but can't be something that they know too much about.
- King Phelps says that if someone is taking a Friday forestry class how come it can't be something that they're learning about.
- Andy Boe says that he thinks it would be good for kids to show in the senior project what their plan is for after graduation. This would include a college application, financial aid, anything that shows the steps they're taking for what comes next for them.
- Devin Hunt asks if Peak 12 offers dual credit or just straight credit?
- Andy Boe states straight credit.
- Devin Hunt states there is a program named Straighter Line that is certified through ACE and they earn a credit and a college credit and the tests are proctored.
- Candy Weatherly asks if you are thinking of changing senior projects who do you need to talk to?

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- Andy Boe states a recommendation would be made from the Charter Council to the Board and then it would become a mandate and he would get the staff together and make it be so.
- Candy Weatherly says that a concern of students if it is made a focus on occupation after high school, many kids have no clue what they want to do. A hobby, perhaps?
- Andy Boe shares that that's the guidance through the conversations with the Aspire volunteers like yourself.
- King Phelps says to him a teacher needs to assign a topic and that is what the student needs to present on. Maybe something that is not thought up by the student but chosen for them.
- Andy Boe would like to revisit the Friday academy. We will host a UCC Friday Career night and get those folks and families and kids here providing transportation and reinstitute our Career Night with industry folks and career opportunities in our county.
- Cynde Pakros says if we do the spring one as a STEAM event again and can have business representatives.
- Candy Weatherly states that part of the problem is getting the kids here, but part of the problem is getting the parents here. She is shocked when talking to the Aspire kids to learn how many kids do not talk to their parents about their plans after school. The kids don't communicate. Blurbs need to go out weekly so they hear it over and over and over again that they get their juniors and seniors out to career night that the message needs to be repeated, repeated and repeated.
- Cynde Pakros states that in the same way part of talking about it needs to start earlier.
- Andy Boe says it might be good to have someone there around sports as well. It's just as hard to plan and prepare to be an athlete as the commitment is huge and I don't think kids understand it.
- Cynde Pakros says it might be good to have a physical therapist here, too.
- Candy Weatherly says she talks to kids all the time about there are so many things you can do as an occupation that relates to a particular profession like nursing, legal , medical, physical therapy.
- Devin Hunt suggests military recruiters are present at career night as well.
- Can we get a grant to bring Gear Up back?
- Andy Boe says that we can work it into career class at the middle school.
- Devin Hunt states that it would work into the schedule really well.

Physical Education credit for Athletics

- There is a 1 full year requirement for physical education which equals a 1 credit toward graduation requirement.
- State of Oregon sites that you may use non classroom experience to meet performance standards with policy providing evidence that they meet competency.
- The physical movement part is covered by attending 90% of practices as long as certain movement requirements are met.

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    - King Phelps states that two sports per year would cover the full year requirement.
    - Andy Boe states that this can be built however the Council would like. Next month, we will plan on making a recommendation if we want to move that up to the board and implement in the fall of '24.
    - Cynde Pakros states that rather than earning .25 credit, she would like to see the sport plus an educational module component.
    - Andy Boe says he would like the Council to think about this and next meeting we will establish and make a recommendation to the board.

- Mr. Tupou made a graduation requirement presentation to the freshmen and senior parents at the Back To School night.
- Candy Weatherly asks if cut back the number of credits because of COVID?
- Mr. Boe states that we are currently sitting at 25 required credits with the addition of Senior Projects.
- Candy Weatherly asks what about the idea of changing the amounts of periods per day? Taking away periods will take away student opportunities.
- Andy Boe says that Days Creek did a block schedule at their high school and it did not work. It was a disaster. They had issues with graduation and such and Mr. Boe has moved away from that idea. Moving to a less period a day might be an option.
- Candy Weatherly says that means that classes are longer instead of quick periods.
- Andy Boe states that graduation credit requirements have not changed at the state level and they have implanted a six (6) year hiatus on the demonstration of essential skills toward graduation.
- King Phelps asks if it is possible we have Friday school only for the kids who are delinquent in credits?
- Andy Boe says it will come down to dollars and staff availability.
- Devin Hunt asks if we can force kids to do that?
- Andy Boe states there are dollars from the state that will cover alt ed and summer school but it has to be designed correctly.
- Homework: Scott Cooper will look at the options for online courses and action items will be dates for the UCC night and potentially a career fair.
- Cynde Pakros says that after discussing with Dan Burke, some ideas for companies to include are IFA Nursery, Roseburg Forest Products, BLM Coos Bay District and the Elliott Research Forest through OSU.
- Andy states that these are excellent candidates to have at a career fair.

Next meeting will be held on November 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

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