



SOUTH SUMMIT
HIGH SCHOOL

School Community Council

Minutes

November 17, 2025

4:00pm - South Summit High School Media Center

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ssummit-org.zoom.us/j/83910062717?pwd=qSHd5m2UqMfetTBNlupgVw9Go5GqsQ.1>

Meeting ID: 839 1006 2717

Passcode: 577059

Attendance: Principal Kena Rydalch, Jeremiah Fierro, David Black, Lloyd Kinderknect, Jody Harris, Brooke Woolstenhulme, Stephanie Woolstenhulme, Natalie Pitt, Amy Madsen, Jodi Jones

Absent: none

1. Action Item: Approve Minutes from October 20, 2025
 - a. Motion by Lloyd Kinderknect to approve the minutes as sent out. Second by Kena Rydalch. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion passes.
2. School News & Updates:
 - a. December ACT Participation: Mr. Dahl
 - i. Amy Regan has graciously agreed to help SSHS become a national ACT test site. Only 1 test date was required. We chose the December test date as December is an optimal time frame for both 11th and 12th grade students to take the ACT. 86 students signed up. 68 of those are SSHS students (34 seniors and 34 Juniors.) As a national testing site, test reservations are available to anyone. Decreased from 54 juniors last year because there is a lot going on with extracurricular activities that particular Saturday in December. Breakfast will still be offered. Question form Jody Harris as to whether this will be every year. It will depend on Amy Regan's ability to continue. Funding will be evaluated, but if students take the ACT prep morning class, they will be reimbursed the cost of the test. Soft data from last year indicates that students who took the ACT prep class scored 2 points higher than those who didn't.
3. School Safety Report: Mr. Fierro
 - a. School Resource Officer and Safety Grant: Mr Fierro is the SSHS school safety specialist. SRO (School Resource Officer) Wes Stuart, here M-Th, Friday is covered

by another certified officer sent by Summit County. His presence at school has changed the dynamic of behaviors of students. SRO is only involved in discipline if a law has been broken. Very fortunate to have a SRO presence at all schools. State gave a grant for school safety. Much of our grant was spent to fund half SRO salary. Additional grant uses include: 1) re-keyed the entire high school. Only 10 master keys that allow entrance into the high school. Teachers use key card. 2) shades on all exterior windows and covering door windows. 3) school Dex is an app that stores every student information with emergency contacts and schedules. In case of loss of power or other emergency, information is stored in app. 4) camera upgrades. Very little area of high school that cannot be viewed by camera. 5) old signage replacement and updated with accurate code reference.

- b. Emergency Response Plan and Drills: Have completed 1 evacuation drill. Had 1 real-life secure alert. Lockdown drill forthcoming.
- c. SRP and Aegix app. SSHS Emergency and Safety Procedures handout provided. Establishes standard procedures. Aegix app that allows teachers to communicate immediately regarding emergencies. Mr Fierro made Council aware there is a reunification plan in place but that is not publicly provided for security reasons.
- d. Facility and Safety needs.
 - i. Locker rooms are now being locked when not in use.
 - ii. SRO Stuart checked exterior doors for month+. Many doors were not fully shutting and latching. SSHS is working towards having those doors fully latch and secure on their own.
 - iii. Need for a defined parent drop off/pick up area. Working on solutions. Very little land to work with. Best option will be when the bus garage is someday relocated. The senior lot could then become drop off/pick up with the bus garage location providing parking.
- e. Safety Items Under Consideration
 - i. Possible K9 drug search. Students kept in class. K9 search lockers, parking areas, and random classroom search. Mr Fierro requested input. Concerns over false positive alerts. Not giving advanced notice. Good deterrent. Beneficial to provide notice at the beginning of year that there may be random searches by K9 with a possible demonstration by dogs as well. Mr Fierro feels like the most effective use of dogs is in the parking lot. Comment that enforcement at school often helps parents get their child needed help. Idea to offer an opportunity for students to come forward quietly prior to search. Concern over alcohol use is large as well.
 - ii. Possible live active-shooter scenario training with the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's office would like to do another one. Traumatic for teachers. 2 possible options: 1) include teachers and students or 2) just open school to first responders to run drill on their own. Possible educational opportunity for police officers to explain situations to kids and how to respond and students provide feedback and questions to officers. Agreeance from council that an active-shooter training is too traumatic to include students, and teachers should be able to choose whether they want to participate.

- iii. Extended lunch opportunities. Students want to go to Heber and Park City. They are having to speed on the way home. Idea to make extended lunches on Fridays at the end of the day. Council generally supports.
 - iv. Question from Councilmember regarding increased alcohol use. Mr. Fierro indicates that a single situation has happened on school property. Kids are feeling safe to speak up.
- 4. Digital Safety Report: Submitted by Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Smith
 - a. SSHS Community Council asked Mrs. Freeman and Mrs. Smith to take on the digital safety education. Topics covered include: Who is looking at digital footprint? Healthy Effects of Screen Time. Can social media be addicting? My digital life is like. They feel like the program and interactions are helping. Additionally, Principal Rydalch has asked that Curtis Cox come speak with kids regarding dangers of social media in his position with FBI. Parents will be invited and it will be broadcast as well on school YouTube channel. Scheduled for January 7 from 9:40 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.
- 5. SCC Training Report: Members report on Training Video
 - a. Live training was held. If you weren't able to log on, please watch the recorded. Notify Principal Rydalch when you have completed.
- 6. Discuss Positive Behavior Plan
 - a. Intended to address the causes of substance use by promoting positive behaviors and is based on input from students, parents, and staff. Amy Leithead has been contracted to interact with students during lunch time. Additionally, she is using County resources to supplement this effort. Mr Black advises to really push the positive behavior efforts at the freshman level.
- 7. Discuss [Draft AI Policy & Procedure](#)
 - a. Draft of AI Policy and Procedure was provided to councilmembers. Please promptly review and send comments to Kena.
 - b. AI use is becoming increasingly problematic.
 - c. Purpose "South Summit School District (SSSD) acknowledges the increasing impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on education, industry, and everyday life. By using AI responsibly and ethically, the district will strengthen teaching and learning, improve operational efficiency, and empower educators, while maintaining a steadfast commitment to student privacy, data security, and the central role of human judgement and integrity. This policy provides guidance for the safe, equitable, and transparent use of AI technologies, ensuring alignment with federal and state laws, including the Utah State Board of Education (USB) AI Framework (2024), and with the district's vision of preparing all students to be college, career, and life ready.
- 8. Action Item: Adjourn Meeting. Motion to adjourn by Amy Madsen.