

Whitehills School Association Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2016 • 7:00pm



1. Call to order with welcome and introductions
2. Approval of agenda
 - a. Angie moved to approve agenda; Jeff seconded.
3. Officers' reports
 - a. President Joy Campbell
 - i. Bylaws will be posted online with minor suggested revisions; we will vote for approval at September 13 meeting.
 - b. Treasurer Jeff Hicks
 - i. Current balance of accounts
 1. Checking \$6,868.46 plus one \$25 deposit today
 2. 5K account \$1991 plus one \$350 deposit today
 3. Playground account \$1716.65
 - ii. Outstanding/upcoming bills?
 1. Transportation budget still expected from district for WSA share of field trip transportation.
 - iii. Budget will be brought to group for approval at September 13 meeting.
 - c. Elizabeth Ivkovich
 - i. Teacher's Lounge is under way, but will possibly need some more funds for a couple extra items.
4. Current WSA projects
 - a. Playground expansion
 - i. Phase I – Gaga pit installed a year ago
 - ii. Phase II – Expansion equipment installed in late July. Joy thanked Angie for her work on playground committee.
 - iii. Phase III – Proposal for smaller pieces to be added to existing playground near swings this month
 1. Angie discussed costs and asked whether to proceed with additional pieces. A new idea would be to have giant games like connect four, chess, etc. which could also be used for indoor recess.
 2. Group voted to approve \$2510 for purchase of two jumping toys and one spinning toy. This uses the remaining funds from playground account plus approximately \$800 of future 5K funds.
 - iv. Ribbon-cutting celebration discussed and agreed that Joy ask Mr. Wells if we can hold this at curriculum night, before ice cream serving, to maximize audience for important celebration/acknowledgement.
- b. Teacher lunchroom makeover
 - i. Elizabeth Ivkovich has been working on this. Room was freshly painted in July. New chairs, curtains, and art have been purchased. Elizabeth and Tabitha Zimney are working on tables. Chrissy Gentilozzi has volunteered to do sewing.
 - ii. Trying to keep this a surprise for teachers when they return.

- c. WSA room organization
 - i. Elizabeth Ivkovich and Joy Campbell will be doing more organization on Thursday from about 2:00-4:00pm. Others are welcome!

- 5. Upcoming WSA events
 - a. Planning ahead
 - i. Joy discussed the at-a-glance calendar for the year.
 - 1. Kirsten noted need to delete spirit wear deadline.
 - ii. All confirmed events are already in Google calendar on website.
 - iii. Larger events will have Facebook events to encourage sharing.
 - b. Grounds clean-up and brick installation
 - i. Angie said bricks will be installed soon (she has confirmation from Tavo at district).
 - ii. She suggested school grounds cleanup before 5K and she will contact Amy Zaagman about cleanup day.
 - c. Second Annual Whitehills 5K, Saturday, August 27
 - i. Open to all ages and abilities; run/walk or trail run
 - ii. 62 registrations so far and more volunteer are definitely needed especially with two courses this year.
 - 1. Signup is on the race website for registration and for volunteering.
 - iii. Posters and registration forms are available online to download and post (workplace, local hangouts, gyms), or contact us and we can give you hard copies.
 - d. Class list posting discussed; no date has been given yet.
 - e. Popsicle Playdate, Wednesday, August 31
 - i. District-wide playdate. 6:00-6:30pm for DK and kindergarten, 6:30-7:00pm all ages welcome.
 - ii. WSA will provide ~200 popsicles.
 - f. First Day of School, Tuesday, September 6
 - i. It is a half day and the bell will ring at 12:10 (full day; 8:43 start and 3:33 end)
 - ii. Outdoor Logistics (8:15-8:45am)
 - 1. Volunteers needed to help show people where to go – we will have line-up signs and maps.
 - a. We are looking for a few people to help with showing people where to go and directing new families.
 - i. Victoria and Angie offered to help.
 - b. Kids like to help hold signs for where they go into their classroom.
 - iii. Parent Welcome Breakfast (8:45-9:45am)
 - 1. Please join us right after the bell rings
 - 2. Sign Up Genius for food/tableware donations is available on website.
 - a. Please feel free to sign up to bring a breakfast treat – there will be a link to sign up genius going out soon.
 - 3. Need a “host” to help set up, ferry food in from outside.
 - g. Picture Day, date TBA
 - i. Has historically been the first Friday of the school year so be prepared for that.

- ii. Watch for volunteer opportunities
 - iii. Victoria offered to help.
 - h. Curriculum Night & Ice Cream Social, Thursday, September 15
 - i. This is a good chance for parents and students to talk with parents about classroom expectations, what homework will look like, etc.
 - ii. Parents and other family members can go into the school and meet teachers and see the classrooms.
 - 1. Ice cream (ice cream cups, dairy-free popsicles, etc.) will be distributed starting at 7:00pm.
 - 2. Volunteers for ice cream social?
 - 3. WSA and ELPL will have tables, possibly other groups
 - iii. Posters or clipboards for upcoming volunteer positions will be set out for people to see all the opportunities – increasing volunteerism will be a goal this year.
 - iv. We're going to pre-order Spirit Wear shirts to have available for sale at the Ice Cream Social. Kirsten Borgstrom is organizing this effort and has sample designs to show us.
 - 1. Retro Duck will let us have the spirit wear ahead of time this year so parents can see, and touch the clothing this year.
 - 2. Parents can also hold up the clothing and see what size will work best for their child; this way they will also have the clothing for almost the entire year.
 - a. Group voted on two designs
 - i. One baseball t-shirt with $\frac{3}{4}$ length blue sleeves
 - ii. One gray t-shirt in dri-fit with school name and paw print.
 - i. Popcorn Fridays, first Friday of each month beginning October 7
 - i. Vicki Belloli and Susan Mayes
 - ii. This is just a fun thing we do to reward kids – they get popcorn once a month and teachers decide when they can eat them during the day.
 - j. Fun Run, Friday, October 14
 - i. Co-chairs Becky Blake and Jen Gorchow – no volunteers needed at this time.
 - ii. Budget needs for Fun Run prizes and incentives will be sent to WSA for approval once they meet.
6. Other leadership and volunteer opportunities
- a. Book Fair
 - i. Angie Smith is seeking a co-chair. All proceeds go back to the Library and there are opportunities to get books for classrooms.
 - 1. Elizabeth would be interested in doing that.
 - b. District Parent Council Representative
 - i. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month from 9:00am to 10:00am in the Board Room at East Lansing High School
 - ii. This is where someone brings information from the WSA meeting to the larger DPC and vice versa.
 - 1. Sarah Nichols expressed interest in that.
 - c. Culture Board
 - i. Sign Up Genius posted online

- ii. If you want to decorate the board about a topic you are passionate about e.g., heritage, adoption, nature, etc.
- d. Front Display Case
 - i. Sign Up Genius posted online
 - ii. This is the case right when you walk in the door near the office; this can be decorated with anything
- e. Front Office Window Decoration
 - i. Open – this is the window in the main office next to Connie – it’s nice to decorate it with a holiday or season appropriate thing, that would be great.
 - 1. Sarah Nichols offered.

7. Other discussion

- a. Angie brought up the “Little Free Library” and reading garden
 - i. It is being repaired right now but we should maybe look into having surveillance or even putting the outdoor seating and furniture away for the summer to protect it from vandalism.
 - ii. Joy will ask Mr. Wells and Ms. Foley how much the reading garden is used and whether we need to replace the broken chairs.
- b. Also regarding security, Joy will ask Mr. Wells about the potential for a fence between school grounds and the baseball/pavilion areas owned by the city.
 - i. Is the city liable if there are injuries on the bleachers? Accidents were reported last year with kids slipping.
 - ii. Safety issue of kids wanting to go into the woods
 - iii. Have extra cameras been ordered for playground?
- c. Joy thought it would be nice to take some pictures of kids playing on the playground to give to the men who put it up so they can see how much of a blessing it is!

WSA Meeting Attendees

Joy Campbell
 Jen Gorchow
 Jeff Hicks
 Elizabeth Ivkovich
 Kirsten Borgstrom
 Sarah Cole-Blankenship
 Victoria Johnson
 Adam Scheidt
 Kathy Raphael
 P. Sylvia Beasley
 Sarah Nichols
 Angie Smith
 Rebecca Blake