

Whitehills School Association Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2016 • 7:00pm



1. Call to order and approval of agenda
 - a. Moved and seconded.
2. Principal's report
 - a. Principal Wells was not able to make this meeting so he will give updates next month.
3. Teachers' report(s) and activities
 - a. Ms. Pike proposes a spring music showcase the week of the April book fair.
 - b. Wednesday, March 29 for Science Fair? (Week after conferences, no known district event/religious observance/NCAA basketball conflicts.)
 - i. No one could think of any holidays – Joy will run this date by Principal Wells.
4. Officers' reports
 - a. President Joy Campbell
 - i. Vote to adopt bylaws
 1. Minor changes are highlighted in red on hard copies and ready to adopt.
 2. Motion to approve bylaws, moved; bylaws approved.
 - b. Treasurer Jeff Hicks
 - i. In the middle of reconciling September but there is a general fund after moving 5K money over of \$7298.00
5. School Board representative report – Yasmina Bouraoui
 - a. School board election in November with three positions open.
 - i. "Meet the Candidates" night sponsored by District Parent Council, Thursday, October 27, 7:00pm at MacDonald Middle School
 - ii. There was one held by the League of Women Voters last week and there will be another one hosted by the Glencairn Neighborhood Association. Information on that will be emailed to Joy by Yasmina.
 - b. There is a bond committee that meets every week and they are open to the public; their chair invited the board to come and listen.
 - i. Recommendations will be wrapped up before Thanksgiving and the board will be looking at the recommendations and will be looking to vote for that before May due to bond restrictions.
 1. Building wouldn't start for a couple years – Yasmina will send a schedule out.
 - ii. There were two great presentations on learning spaces made by teachers at the last meeting.
 1. Lots of places to move, and are more student centered
 2. Community space – could serve if there are volunteers that come
 3. There were designated places for STEAM
 4. Community gardens

- 5. Performance areas
 - iii. Early Childhood Presentations
 - 1. They suggested two pods in two elementary schools with a long list of what would be ideal.
 - 2. A central shared space with other spaces off of that and that could flow in and out.
 - 3. There would be different payment models so it would be accessible to everyone.
 - c. A motion to rename Columbus Day was made at the recent Board meeting, proposing that Indigenous People's Day be recognized. Discussion arose of how this might impact curriculum.
 - 1. It brought up more issues so this will be revisited at a later date
 - d. There were issues with class sizes brought up and that created some tension.
 - i. In this year's contract it was very clear what the class sizes would be before there would be financial considerations made.
 - 1. Administration is going to deal with this issue and try and establish some criteria to use
 - e. Angie Smith asked whether the number of special needs children (and thus their para pro assistants) in a given classroom is balanced with other classrooms in the same school in order to limit the number of adults in a class.
 - 1. Yasmina said she would look into that.
6. Current/recent WSA projects
- a. Walk to School Day
 - i. Seemed to go well!
 - ii. There were 2 police officers and the normal 2 crossing guards and it worked fine – there was no re-routing that happened.
 - iii. All kids got to participate, even if they weren't able to walk to school, with the perimeter walk after the bell rang.
 - iv. Hawk's Nest was able to be dropped off at the church on Towar and then walked from there to the school.
 - 1. There were more than 35 children that walked from the bus start to school.
 - v. It might be helpful to publicize the parade even more beforehand so kids know where to go and late children aren't confused.
 - b. School Directory
 - i. Thanks to Kirsten Borgstrom for her work compiling the directory. It should be finished in the next couple of weeks.
 - c. Playground
 - i. Playground Expansion
 - 1. Three smaller pieces to be added to playground near swings soon.
 - 2. October 21st is the installation date – kids do not have school that day.
 - ii. There are two exposed pipes that present a possible safety concern. Mr. Wells is in contact with the City and district about this.
 - d. Teacher lunchroom makeover

- i. No further information on cost of glass top for table yet; Elizabeth will continue to look for that estimate before the next meeting.

7. Upcoming events

- a. Fun Run – Friday, October 14
 - i. Another flyer will be going home soon to remind kids what colors they are supposed to wear, etc.
 - ii. Parents and other family welcome to come and cheer
 - iii. Team spirit colors and times listed on flyers and website
 - iv. Pledge deadline October 24
 - v. More pledges would be nice – Jen is anticipating \$10,000
- b. T-Shirt Tuesday – Tuesday, October 18, 12:00-1:00pm
 - i. The last “T-Shirt Tuesday” was too windy to do it outside, so the next one may sell more
 - ii. We have placed 2 re-orders and are not making any more and we have almost cleared our costs and have around 75 t-shirts left.
- c. Teacher Appreciation Luncheons, Tuesday and Thursday October 18 and 20
 - i. Food sign-up online
 - 1. Almost fully filled but check if you can help
- d. Marco’s Pizza Night – Thursday, October 20
 - i. We earned \$81.00 last month
- e. Box Tops Fall Deadline – Thursday, October 20
- f. ELPS “Meet the Candidates” night – Thursday, October 27, 7:00pm at MacDonald Middle School – see above for more information
- g. Science Club – Friday, October 28 (moved due to no school 10/21)
 - i. This month: Baloney detection (aka critical thinking)
 - ii. Sign Up Genius posted online for volunteers (once or ongoing)
- h. Popcorn Friday – Friday, November 4
- i. ****DATE CHANGE**** WSA Meeting – Tuesday, November 15 (due to Election Day)

8. Leadership and volunteer opportunities

- a. All known volunteer needs through winter break are already posted on the WSA website. From the home page, click on “I Want to Volunteer!”

9. Fundraising

- a. Fun Run pledges are at \$3,415 (as of this morning, only counting online pledges) to meet fundraising goal of \$13,000
- b. Any updates on possible movie night based on Marble’s success with this type of event
 - i. Information is still coming in so we are trying to get all of the numbers in
 - ii. Could be a great idea to mix the movie night in with the Book Fair.

10. Any other business

- a. _____ Palooza
 - i. The time capsule that is in the wall is due to be opened in 2017 and the Palooza might be a great time to do that – Principal Wells is looking into that.

- ii. What will the funds go to from the Palooza event? This will determine the final name. By next month we will decide on this.

11. Adjournment

Attendees:

Amy Zaagman
Angie Smith
Elizabeth Ivkovich
Jeff Hicks
Jen Gorchow
Joy Campbell
Mia Gougeon Adarkwa
Sarah Cole-Blankenship
Yasmina Bouraoui