

# WEST HIGH SCHOOL

## Parent Teacher Student Association

Meeting Minutes – December 6, 2017

1. Welcome and Introductions-Welcome to new student PTSA representative, Emmanuel Onyeagba and new President Elect, Racheel Taussky!
2. Business Items
  - Treasurer’s Report.....Kristin Bonacci
  - PTSA Sponsored Student Lunch with Principal White.....Kim Shelley-Vandel  
To enlist suggestions and participation from students a regular lunch with students will be held with the principal. Open to all students. Meetings will cover both lunches. Kim requested a new budget line item of \$500 to fund these lunches, Katherine seconded. Kim will email principal to set up dates.
3. Principal’s Report.....Ford White
  - Principal provided scatter plots detailing the connection of tardies and absences to failing grades. Plots indicate that tardies don’t indicate failing grades but absences do. He has discussed this with teachers and hopes to get them to be less strict in consequences for tardies as having a student in class, even late, is better than not having them there at all. He will continue to compile data periodically throughout the year to track this information.
  - New FTEs have been added to help alleviate crowded classes and to increase student success. Great applicants. New math teacher already working to decrease numbers in secondary math 1 and 2.
  - New hires for history, art, interior design. Looking for native speaking Spanish teacher to replace outgoing teacher.
  - Whooping cough update. Two cases.
  - Administration is looking at ways to improve the referral process between West and Horizonte. Focus on freshmen, more freshmen than other grades are affected by this. Looking at 3 to 5 school to address some of the issues.
  - 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation will probably be moved to Spring.
  - Starting 2018-19 school year, move graduation up one week to be able to finish up the school year focusing on other grades.
  - Graduation will be at June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm at the Huntsman Center
4. Teacher Rep Report.....Julie Anzelmo
  - Teachers request looking at the age of students when setting up academic schedule. Behaviors can be tougher for certain ages at the end of the day so if the academics could be in the earlier part of the day the students may be more successful.
  - Department meetings have been positive so far.
5. PTSA 2017-2018 Committee Updates/Initiatives Cont.
  - Reflections..... Julie Peaslee

140 participants this year. Hot areas were literature, 2-D art and 3-D art. 27 West students advanced to district, January 10<sup>th</sup> will be the announcement of those winners. How to honor winners? \$20 Amazon gift cards (\$540, budget for reflections is \$500.) Julie requests Katherine look for a co-chair for next year.

- Community partnerships .....Kim  
Kim and Lisa attended an Our CASA partnership meeting. West PTSA agreed to partner with Our CASA and is evaluating ways to recruit, train, and track volunteers to cover Friday shifts in Our CASA. Lisa Thompson will serve as liaison between University Neighborhood Partners and PTSA. Lisa also reached out to Utah Food Bank regarding partnering with West on a food bank hosted at West. They are interested. Kim will send details about Lisa's conversation with the food bank to committee in another email as time is short. Lisa and Kim plan to tour Granger High food bank on Dec 12<sup>th</sup>. Full report on efforts regarding food bank at West will be given to committee in upcoming meetings.
- Book Drive.....Kim  
Julie Anzelmo and student rep Emmanuel will work together to set this up.

6. Review Calendar

- March 1<sup>st</sup> Parent Teacher Conferences
- May 19<sup>th</sup> Senior Prom
- May 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Teacher Appreciation Week
- June 6<sup>th</sup> Commencement/Grad Night?? Katherine is hoping to receive commitment on a chair for this soon.

7. Questions/comments

8. Next meeting January 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30

9. Future meetings:

January 10<sup>th</sup>  
February 7<sup>th</sup>  
March 7<sup>th</sup>  
April 4<sup>th</sup>  
May 2<sup>nd</sup>