

West High School

Parent Teacher Student Association

Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2018

1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Went around & introduced ourselves with a new member in attendance tonight

2. Business Items

a. Treasurer's Report

Kristin Bonacci

- i. Went over updated budget from last month's meeting & approved the 2018-2019 budget.
- ii. The PTSA received the grant money & was finally able to pay back Kim!
- iii. We received \$860 in donations.
- iv. \$350 PTSA dues to be paid this week.
- v. Racheel spoke with Monica Strong who verified that the PTSA can give money towards one scholarship if it is open to all students to apply. Last year PTSA gave the money to Neighborhood Partnership who compiled it with other donations to create the scholarship.

3. West PTSA 2017-2018 committee Updates

a. Community Outreach

Lisa Thompson

- i. Lisa won't be able to be in charge this year but will stay in touch.

b. Reflections

Racheel Taussky

- i. Racheel so graciously took over Reflections when the last chair pulled out last minute. She will buy Amazon gift-cards & ribbons for the winners. Announcements have gone out at West & to parents via email. TV West would be a great place to remind students & to announce the winners. There have been approximately 30 entries already. The due date is Nov. 16th so they can get judged & on to the next level by Dec. 3rd.

c. Teacher Appreciation

TBD

- i. Suzanne Attix kindly stepped up & offered to chair Teacher Appreciation this year. Sandra Atanackovic volunteered to help as did many others at the meeting. Ford White said to plan for 120 teachers & offered the use of the new and enlarged Our Casa. Ideas are open, but it was suggested that donations be solicited from local businesses in addition to financial donations from parents.

d. Grad Night

Joni Jones

- i. Joni couldn't attend tonight, but Racheel shared that West has reserved Boondocks with East High again like last year. It is possible that East will backout leaving the venue for West High only. There were no problems from last year sharing the space with East.

4. 2018-2019 Initiatives

a. Food Pantry

Lisa Sandstrom

- i. Lisa couldn't able to attend tonight but Racheel reported that the Food Pantry looks good. Lisa will let the PRSA know when it is needing parent volunteers to help hand out food.
 - b. Cinderella's Closet Lisa Sandstrom
 - i. Lisa will sell the current dresses to Uptown Cheapskate in return for vouchers to give to those in need. Space is an issue & storing the dresses is not worth it for the time being. West can look into soliciting donations before each dance & selling them back to Uptown Cheapskate afterwards to deal with the storage issue. Another idea was starting a dress swap, so students can share dresses they have already worn with others. To enhance this, students/drama club/etc. could volunteer to run a salon to help others with hair and makeup. Shannon can ask students informally what they'd like to see when she visits English classes coming up.
 - c. Community Partnerships, Our Casa Racheel Taussky
 - i. Racheel will meet with the other high school PTSA presidents, Monica Strong, & the superintendent on Nov. 13th. Tonight's attendees asked Racheel to bring up the issue of making West a closed campus and asking that all perspectives be considered, especially the West High community, before the board makes a decision.
 - 1. Approximately 250 students attend West that are not in the Salt Lake School boundaries. This equates with approximately 50 new students a year. It would not affect those currently attending West. If passed, it would go into effect for the next school year 2019-2020 & include ELP.
 - a. West's enrollment as of today is 2721. East is 1985 & Highland is 1687.
 - 2. Other schools in the district are at capacity or above, but only West is being considered to close enrollment.
 - 3. Focus should be on West High's philosophy - on accepting diverse students who enhance the school community?
 - 4. Teachers are concerned with the lack of space & the need to share rooms & have traveling teachers to maximize space.
 - ii. Our Casa is great! The new coordinator Vivian Lee is energetic and full of ideas. She would like to have a grand reopening mid-December. New and gently used toys can be donated to Our Casa.
5. Principal's report Ford White
 - a. School safety protocols are changing. On Nov. 20th, West will lock all doors & leave 4 main entrances open with tables set up to greet & check-in all visitors. All other doors will be locked except for the transition times between classes. A concern came up that students need to be trained so they feel confident in how to handle various emergency scenarios.
 - b. Parents of current 10th & 11th graders can check out Class Choice on PowerSchool to see the classes their student selected for next year.
 - c. A bridge to go over the train tracks on 300 N has been approved & should be completed within 2 years.

- d. Ford shared a packet of school data including 2017-2018 end of year results, 2018-2019 1st quarter data, & areas of improvement. The data included both academic & behavioral with a few highlights being 72% of students passing all of their classes 1st quarter & lowering the chronically truant students by $\frac{1}{2}$ (2017-18 = 22%) (Q1 2018 = 11%). When matched to Utah's 20 most comparable schools, West was #1 for Language Arts proficiency, #2 for mathematics proficiency, & #4 for science proficiency. There are a couple grants focusing on the English Language Learner (ELL) population & using technology to build their literacy skills. Ford is looking at funding vs. effectiveness to keep only those programs that can be justified by data results. Yard signs are coming to share the positive attendance data & educate parents to its importance.
 - i. 20/20 was implemented this year where teachers are expected to keep students in their classes the first and last 20 minutes of class (no hall pass use).

6. Teacher Rep report

- a. Student Leadership Committee

Kara Budge

- i. Kara was not able to attend tonight's meeting.

7. Student Rep report

- a. Lunch with Principal

Shayla Steinfelds

- i. Shayla will hold the luncheon during both lunches on Friday, Nov. 16th.

8. Review Calendar

- a. Nov 12-20: Food Drive
- b. Dec 1: Junior Prom
- c. Dec 3: Reflections Due to Region
- d. February 9: Sweethearts Dance
- e. February 28: Parent Teacher Conferences
- f. March 18-22: Spirit Week
- g. March 22: Spirit Bowl
- h. May 4: Senior Prom (date may change)
- i. May 6-10: Teacher Appreciation Week
- j. June 5: Grad Night

9. Next meeting December 5th at 5:30