

# West High School

## Parent Teacher Student Association

### Meeting Minutes – November 1, 2017

1. Kim welcomed everyone. There were no new attendees so introductions were not necessary.
2. Business Items
  - Treasurer's Report.....Kristin Bonacci
    - i. West High has 53 PTSA members; Kristin will cut a check to pay the dues
      1. Julie will arrange a call-out to teachers to solicit PTSA membership.
    - ii. Kristin has a check for Adriana to reimburse P/T Conference meals. Adriana couldn't attend tonight, so Kristin will mail it to her.
  - President's Report
    - i. Kim passed around the bylaws. Julie made a motion to approve them & Sierra seconded it. Those in attendance voted unanimously to approve them.
      1. Ford suggested a monthly student PTSA lunch to increase student membership. It would be a chance for students to eat food while becoming informed & sharing their voice. This would be held during both lunches. Kim will follow-up with Ford about possible dates. PTSA buy the food?
3. Principal's Report.....Ford White
  - Curriculum Goals: dept. chairs are taking it seriously
    - i. Ford is asking departments to identify essential concepts required for advancement to the next level/grade.
    - ii. Ford is asking departments to support other content areas in building skills & proficiency for the end-of-year tests. Eg: supporting writing or numeracy across the curriculum, writing in PE, ...
      1. Starting with math, science, & language arts & build from there in the future
    - iii. Every student should have exposure to an IB class
      1. Non-IB teachers can support their regular classes by building confidence & helping them build the skills & find the area where they can succeed in an IB class
      2. West wants to continue to grow the IB program, but it'll take a few years
    - iv. 6-week data
      1. 1600 students were passing all of their classes
      2. 800 were failing only one class
      3. 24 kids are failing all of their classes
      4. Using PBIS to support & motivate students to succeed.
        - a. Grizzly tickets, store prizes, etc.

5. 3% habitual tardies & being careful not to turn into 22% habitual absenteeism by being overly harsh w/ tardy students
  - a. Got rid of the \$5 fee
6. Data checks
  - a. 3 opportunities to look at data 1st quarter
  - b. 4 opportunities in 2nd quarter
  - c. 3 opportunities 3rd quarter & will have more interventions in place
  - d. Looking at the data to see if tardies are affecting their grade, even if they can pass the end of the year test
    - i. The citizenship grade went away a few years ago
7. Change: can it be repeated, replicated, & is it reasonable (sustainable too)
- v. Rumblings of closing West's open enrollment due to limited space
  1. Square footage allows so many students, but schools can look at restructuring space &/or bringing in portables
  2. Talk of closure is slowing down due to so many finding out about it
  3. Enrollment is projected to be 3K in two years w/ neighborhood kids
  4. Looking at when to cut off open enrollment & enforcing deadlines
    - a. Ford would like to see a start with enforcing deadlines to help control numbers
    - b. More restrictive is to close West to only Salt Lake District or to local boundaries/neighborhood students only
  5. If the process becomes too difficult, we may lose good students to Skyline, Hillcrest, or Bountiful
- vi. Olympus Choir Concert invited East High to perform w/ them. East noticed they do not have the same musical opportunities as Olympus so if Salt Lake District doesn't improve their art programs, they will continue to lose talented students to other districts
  1. Schools need to look at their IB teachers to see if they are engaging enough to grow their programs
  2. Parents & students need to take their concerns to the teacher before taking it to the principal.
    - a. Stakeholders feedback is very important!
      - i. The Accreditation Team is being formed right now. It's the mid-5 year review, so the stakeholder survey will be out after it.
      - ii. Many people on PTSA haven't ever received a district or school survey request. Does West need to do a call out to broaden the net of stakeholder input?
  3. Art is equitable w/ access to every kid. Salt Lake District has very talented students, but the artistic talent isn't being harnessed to its full potential.

4. Teacher Rep Report.....Julie Anzelmo

- Book Drive: Julie asked for clarification about what student help is needed. She is looking for students who will take on the book drive project; there are a lot of students needing service hours. Students are needed to collect the books from teachers & take them to the Family Resource Center (FRC). Lisa Sandstrom may have a better idea of the numbers/need.
  - i. The PTSA needs to look at how to inform students of this service.
  - ii. Publicize the list to ask parents to order an extra copy to donate.
  - iii. Julie hands out free books to students. We want to help students build home libraries.
  - iv. The PTSA needs to create a system to make sure students are getting the resources they need without others knowing or feeling embarrassed.

5. PTSA 2017-2018 Committee Updates

- Reflections..... Julie Peaslee
  - i. Julie wasn't able to attend today, but she passed along the request for judges. Please let Julie know if you can help.

6. 2017-2018 Initiatives

- Community Partnerships.....Lisa Thompson
  - i. Food Bank: Lisa & Kim met with Pam about the issue of space. Pam asked them to look at other options like the Food Bank's Mobile Pantry Program, but you have to have a child at that elementary school to participate. Lisa is gathering more information about adding West to the program & looking into other options or programs to adopt.
    1. We need to find out which West students don't have a connection to the elementary school programs.
    2. The Mobile Pantry Program doesn't go to every Title I school.
    3. East High has a great pantry, but it takes a robust PTSA or school employee to handle it.
    4. With the high needs of West, it needs a full-time Family Resource Center employee.
    5. West has a full-time social worker, but they're not consistent. If this is the case, it needs to be addressed.
    6. Ford would love to see a parent-team mediation in the evening to help connect home & school to more effectively support students.
  - ii. University Neighborhood Partners: Lisa checked with Paul about reaching out & including more of the neighborhood families at West. Paul would love to work with West. He's gathering other partners & inviting our West PTSA to attend a meeting to talk about possibilities. Open Our Casa more? coffee?
    1. Our Casa could be connected with the Family Resource Center (FRC) in a portable.
      - a. We would like to see Our Casa grow & be better utilized.
    2. Ford is looking into the U offering a free IHC clinic here at West. He's meeting with the U Nov. 28th @ 2pm at West if anyone's interested in attending.

- a. One option could be a portable in the north parking lot.
3. Possibly create a College Center to connect all of the college programs.
4. Community Learning Center (CLC) would give flexibility to our community. Local families/businesses partners may fund it. Katherine would like to work with Ford on this multi-year plan. It would be a central location for all of the services we've mentioned (food pantry, laundry, medical check-ups...)
  - a. There is a lot of support from the district for CLCs.

7. PTSA Positions

- Possible chair-elect coming next meeting
- We now have a Communications Chair!
- We need a chair for Grad Night!

8. Review Calendar

- Nov 13-17<sup>th</sup> Food Drive
- Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Reflections Entries Due to Ms. Delfin
- Dec Junior Prom
- Dec ? Reflections Due to Region?
- 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 6th Commencement/Grad Night??

9. Questions/comments

- Cover the Master Schedule in a future meeting so parents/guardians understand

10. Next meeting December 6th at 5:30

11. Future meetings:

January 10th

February 7th

March 7th

April 4th

May 2nd