

**WEST END SECONDARY SCHOOL PARENT ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

March 13, 2023

Agenda

- Principal's report
- President's report
- Treasurer's report
- Spring Benefit Update
- Upcoming events
- Recruiting new PA members

I. Call to Order

Co-President Rebecca Weel called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

In attendance: Rebecca Weel, Samantha Benowitz, Skip Card, Karen Cape, Marc Ehrlich, Jill Gabin, Galia Galansky, Erica Johnson, Jennifer Richey, Liz Sorem and Barry Waldman.

Minutes from February were approved with minor edits.

II. Treasurer Report

\$25,900 auction ticket sales so far. More than broken even on costs with ticket sales alone. Last year we were around \$99,000 towards Family Giving so we are closing the gap compared to last year's incoming donation. Missing senior dues, as only about \$3,875 has been collected. Karyn will follow up to get dues and keep this separate from PA communication. After spring break and before prom are good times to push this.

In the future WESS alumni could be solicited for donations or for situations to help others in the community.

There have been some other costs for teacher's appreciation, coffees and hospitality events. Got back money from Club Getaway. In the process of getting 1099's to staff.

III. President's Report

Erin is working on the Spring Benefit to make it as successful as possible. Still soliciting more donations and baked goods for the event.

Newsletter will go out tomorrow and will be the last one before Spring Break.

The sixth grade social was successful and others planned. Events are staffed by school staff and PA. There was one incident with students fighting. Parents were called and the situation was resolved. Trying to determine best ways to prevent and handle these types of situations in the future. In the future, can have one parent guarding each exit or zone. Parents should be encouraged to accompany their children if they believe they may have challenges with that type of an event. Overall kids had a good time and were singing, dancing, had fun and want to do it again.

Dates for 7th and 8th grade socials are being confirmed.

The first WESS International Food Festival occurred on March 4 and was successful. Parents expressed that they met new people and took down phone numbers. There was diversity in attendees and food that was shared. It should be held again. Food brought people together. Students were involved in helping. Event worked well at a three-hour duration and should possibly start a bit earlier in the future. Entertainment could not be scheduled due to another event in the Black Box. Students were encouraged to come and help and get community service hours; and they did join. It was a great post-pandemic event for the community.

Live Out Loud event for LGBTQ advocacy is scheduled for this week. (Postponed to April 18).

Elections for the Executive Board will be held in May. There is a desire to look for future treasurers and board members. Jessica and Karyn will also brainstorm on future candidates. At other schools, board members formed a search committee to find new parents to get involved in future leadership positions. For treasurers, it's helpful for one person to have a finance background, but not necessary. Possibility of changing bylaws to add a third treasurer. It may be worth looking at 8th grade families that are returning to get them involved. Will need a new VP for High School as Skip's child is graduating. Election will be held on May 24, at 6:30 pm. May have to announce and open election 30 days beforehand.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Waldman, Recording Secretary