

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

May 15, 2023

Agenda

- Principal's Report
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Bylaws discussion
- Upcoming elections

I. Call to Order

Co-President Rebecca Weel called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

In attendance: Yvette Russell, Rebecca Weel, Max Alvarez, Samantha Alvarez Benowitz, Skip Card, Marc Ehrlich, Jill Gabin, Galia Galansky, Erica Johnson, Aishwarya Kumar, Jennifer Richey, Liz Sorem and Barry Waldman.

Minutes from April were unanimously approved.

II. Treasurer Report

Request for EB members to submit receipts.

Family Giving is at \$189,000. Hoping for end of the year donations to be at or closer to \$195,000. Both are lower than the original budgeted amount of \$233,000. Another push for Family Giving will be done soon. Conversation started of whether big asks vs. small asks of community work better.

Auction gross came in at \$166,000. Lower than last year, however, expenses were lower. Overall, a good event for the WESS community.

Senior dues are still not complete and waiting for more families to contribute.

Fundraising for 2023/ 2024 school year, beginning conversation about what works better for fundraising: asking in big ways vs. smaller ways. Treasurers looking to continue this dialogue and think about ideas.

Sports banquet June 9th expenses will be covered by sports teams (Boosters). There will be more information on this at the next meeting.

Presentation and Review of Preliminary Budget for 2023/ 2024 school year. Preliminary Budget will be presented to the WESS Parent Association at the June meeting. Key areas that came up for discussion were the allotment of funds for Professional Development for Teachers, Take Two Film program, and Outward Bound (camping trips, field trips). Concerns raised about the programs being underfunded. Questions raised and requests made to understand more about: Professional Development; Field Trips - are all grades benefiting; and Take Two - is the curriculum for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades (are all grades benefitting from this program)? Request for more information from the Principal to have a better understanding. Meanwhile, a motion was made to move \$20,000 from Professional Development to the Outward Bound program line in the budget. Motion did not pass. Point made that SLT is the best forum for conversations about curriculum. Discussion on whether to vote on the preliminary budget or wait for questions to be clarified by the Principal. Motion made to approve preliminary budget and present to the Parent Association. Motion passed.

III. President's Report

Review of updated ByLaws that were last updated in 2018. Questions raised about clarifying term limits, consecutive terms, as well as increasing the number of people allowed to share a position as a "co" such as two Middle School Vice Presidents, two High School Vice Presidents, two Vice Presidents At Large.

Elections are being held at the May meeting. Election needs to be announced 30 days in advance. The goal is to have at least one person running for each position.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Sorem, VP High School and Barry Waldman, Recording Secretary