

HOME & SCHOOL

Washington Junior High School

WJHS Home and School Board Approved Minutes

Tuesday, February 14 @ 9am via Zoom

[Zoom Link](#)

1. Call to Order by Melinda at 9:02 am
 - a. In attendance: Emily Kozlowski, Melinda Watson, Jon Vogel, Anne Jackson Metzger, Kathryn Pegorsch, Shannon Olsen, Jepharya Badie, Nicole Kmetz, Colleen Curry-Lee, Nicole Anderson, Roberta Bree

2. President's Report: Melinda Watson
 - a. Transitions: Are you continuing with your committee?
 - i. Exec Board will be reaching out to you
 1. [Intentions for 2024-25 School Year](#)
 2. Please respond to the above link as soon as possible.
 - ii. Slate for 2024-2025 Executive Board presented in March
 1. Both for General H&S and WJHS Board
 - iii. Treasurer position is available
 - iv. If you would like to be on the General Home and School Exec Board let me know.
 - b. We are starting to contact feeder schools for transition meetings
 - i. What to expect when you come to Washington, Melinda and Jon.
 - c. Budget planning begins this month
 - i. Does your committee need changes?
 - ii. Additional fundraisers moving forward.
 - d. Upcoming dates
 - i. February 10th, WJHS Skate Night 5-7pm for student council
 1. They raised \$125, around 50 kids.
 - ii. February 14th, scheduling opens for junior high parent-teacher conferences.
 - iii. No School February 19 (Presidents' Day)
 - iv. No School March 7-8 (Parent-Teacher conferences)
 - v. No School March 25-29 (Spring Break)
 - e. Bylaw Review
 - i. Additions? Edits? Everyone please take a look at it and let us know what you think needs to be edited. We will go over all the changes together by year end.
 - ii. [Working Draft of 2023-24 Bylaws.docx](#)
 - f. District News
 - i. Magazine Drive Start Date 9/9-9/21 Hoping all 5 schools sign up this year to get a better incentive package
 - ii. MAP Assessments were just wrapped up for all schools.
 - iii. 6th grade is picking out their exploratory packages for next year.
 - iv. Next trimester begins on 2/22

- v. WJHS Family Night is coming up 4/17 7pm - adults only. Kids will visit from feeder schools during the day that week.
 - 1. Does H&S need to help with this?
 - vi. PT Conf Sign up starts 2/14
 - vii. IT Dept is joining the Print shop at its new location to make room for Connections Program
 - viii. The 5 year financial forecast was reviewed.
 - ix. General and optional fees were looked at during the Board of Education meeting. at every school throughout the district.
 - 1. Comparatively in Illinois we are on the lower end.
 - 2. Questions from parents wondering why we have to pay fees at a public school.
 - a. Their answer is that the fee you pay is specific to your child for any activity or event they are partaking in.
 - x. Pay increases for teachers - specifically retired teachers acting as subs or long term subs or teachers subbing for more than 10 days.
3. Vice President's Report: Kathryn Pegorsch
- a. February is when we start to look at getting 8th celebrations started.
 - b. Emailed Jess Jamrosz and she has questions about the steps she needs to do to prepare.
 - c. Kathryn will be reaching out to Suzy Sharp.
 - d. Logistics and decorations will change for this year regarding wheelchair access for the moving on ceremony. Mr. Decker will be consulted.
4. Treasurer's Report: Anne Jackson Metzger
- a. Approval of [January 2024 Financials](#)
 - i. 1st Motion: Melinda Watson
 - ii. 2nd Motion: Emily Kozlowski
 - iii. Approved
 - iv. January 31, 2024 balance: \$60,265.48
 - b. Budget will be presented in March, voted on in April
5. Secretary's Report: Emily Kozlowski
- a. Approval of [UnapprovedMinutesJanuary 18, 2024 .docx](#)
 - i. 1st Motion: Nicole Kmetz
 - ii. 2nd Motion: Kathryn Pegorsch
 - iii. Approved
 - b. Correspondence
 - i. "Home and School-
Thank you so much for my wish list items. It has been such a fun week receiving the items, going through them with the students, and watching them be put to use. What a perfect gift to brighten up these dark February days. We are so grateful that Home and School gives back to the actual teachers, classrooms, and students each year!!! Thank you!! **Mrs. Lauren Labriola**"
6. Principal's Report: Jon Vogel

- a. 5 E-learning days a year - getting reviewed this year
 - i. The district has options of extending the school year or using an e-learning day.
 - ii. E-learning days will be used on election days so that the schools that are polling places can be safe.
 - iii. After 5 days of e-learning we have to have a day off and extend the school year.
- b. WJHS Escape Room
 - i. Escape Room was the replacement activity for Open House.
 - ii. Staff is looking to get back to an Open House format next year.
- c. Caudill Breakfast was this morning
 - i. 80-90 kids participated, voted on their favorite book and had donuts.
 - ii. Has become a very popular event.
- d. Testing
 - i. IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) has been moved to the beginning of March.
 - ii. Statewide test that is used for the Every School Succeeds Act.
 - iii. Determines if a school is commendable/exceptional.
 - iv. MAP testing is in May.
- e. 5 Essentials Survey
 - i. Every year parents, staff and students take it and WJHS tends to perform well.
 - ii. Kids will take the survey in their PE class.
 - iii. 20% of parents need to participate for the results to count.
- f. Exploratory Shifts
 - i. Next year 7th graders will have the option of three of the following : Code Explorers, FACS, Art and PLTW.
 - 1. Code Explorers satisfies the state computer requirement.
 - ii. FACS is very popular and is focused on culinary arts and Shark Tank-like opportunities.
 - iii. Current 6th graders, when they start 8th grade will be the first class to be able to take the new French or Spanish curriculum.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Verbal reports
 - i. Staff Appreciation
 - 1. School Counselor week was last week and gifts were dropped off.
 - 2. Crumbl cookies were brought in for the staff today for Valentine's Day.
- b. Written reports
 - i. Diversity Advisory Committee Meeting Notes
 - 1. [01/29/2024 Meeting](#)
 - ii. Community Inclusion Chair - Karen Brown
 - 1. "Thank you for including the Diversity Advisory minutes in the meeting. That includes so many important things, specifically the upcoming SUCCESS events. Other current celebrations include Lunar New Year, which began this past Saturday and continues for 15 days, and Lent, which starts today and ends March 28th. "

8. Adjournment at 9:28am

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 13th, @ 9 am