

**Washington High School PTA
Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2016**

President Jane Hutchins called the meeting to order at 9:10 am.

Executive Committee Report:

Secretary – Jen Boettger submitted the September 2016 minutes for approval. Kate Hogg made a motion to approve, seconded by Julia Weston. Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer – Lijun Chadima submitted Treasurer's report.

Counseling Update – Mr. Dean Blanchard

See Addendum #1 for more detail.

Principal's Report – Dr. Grant

No Report. Dr. Grant is attending the cultural diversity workshop.

Committee Reports:

Membership/Blue Chip – Kate Hogg We are at no change in membership from last month.

Cookie Sales – Jane Hutchins for Jana Nassif Sign-up Genius should be coming out soon. We are approved to do the October 27th sale, but the remaining sales are under consideration due to the district nutrition policy.

Hospitality – Charu Chawla / Julia Weston Next Wednesday's parent teach conference meal could use some help, otherwise all of the hospitality events this year are going very well.

Reflections – Teresa Wake Theme: "What is Your Story?" Teresa is working with Carrie Tinkham. The due date to state is later in January so the students' deadline is usually a few days beforehand. Reflections is a student driven arts competition.

Warrior Closet – Jane Hutchins Outfitted 20 students for homecoming this year.

Old Business:

- Reviewed the Warrior Pantry Committee Proposal (see addendum #2). The committee members present fielded questions and facilitated discussion.
- Motion to approve the proposal was made by Teresa Wake, seconded by Leah Ferring, the motion was approved. Lijun Chadima asked for a motion to add a line to the budget. So moved by Teresa Wake, seconded by Dina Dusek. Chair for this committee is Jenny Woods.

New Business:

John Gianforte requested assistance from the PTA to supply lunch/refreshments for mentors attending the upcoming iJAG resume-writing sessions and mock interviews that are slated for Oct. 27 and Nov. 17. Jane Hutchins suggested we donate \$50 from the Conference Meals & Snacks line as opposed to a coordinated sign-up. So moved by Charu Chawla, seconded by Becky Lindwall. Motion was approved.

We've received several requests to consider alternating meeting times between daytime and evening. Discussion followed. The consensus of the members present was that daytime meetings allow for participation from the staff and administration. It is a consideration for next year. In the meantime, members are asked to encourage others to stay caught up via the posted minutes and volunteer for committee work.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 am.

Jen Boettger, PTA Secretary

Addendum 1: COUNSELING - PTA UPDATE

October 11, 2016

Registration for the PSAT will end this Friday, October 14, but we will continue to allow kids to sign up the 17th and 18th if we still have tests. The cost is \$20.00 for juniors and it is free for sophomores. The testing will take place on Wednesday, October 19th at the Kirkwood KTOS center on Armar Drive. Check-in will begin at 7:45AM and the test will finish at approximately 11:30. Students will be excused for periods 1-5. Juniors use this to compete for National Merit consideration and as a practice test. Sophomores use this strictly for practice, and would have to take it again in the junior year to be considered for National Merit.

The ACT test is given on October 22nd, at several Cedar Rapids locations, although registration for this test has ended. Registration for the December 10th ACT, however, can take place on or before November 4. The next SAT is November 5th, with late registration through Oct. 18th. It is offered again on December 3rd with a registration deadline of November 3rd. Fall testing is generally for seniors but students in other grades often choose to get in a practice test.

To date we have mailed 35 transcripts to colleges for 14 different students. Last year at this time we had sent 41 transcripts for 28 students. Encourage your senior students to jump into the process.

We went on our college trip 2 weeks ago. We visited 6 colleges in 3 days. It was nice to be able to see the campuses of the colleges that our kids are applying to. We will make a full report to the PTA in the future. Thank you for your continued support.

I will soon be balancing second semester classes. Encourage your students to get in early to see their counselor with any changes they want for second trimester.

The deadline for a student to drop a class with the assurance that it will not reflect an F, even if that is what the student is earning, is today, Oct. 11. Drops that take place after the 11th will be done so with a W or an F depending on whether a passing or failing grade is being earned at the drop point.

Please visit our counseling web site. We have great information on a lot of different things and links to many sites that you would also find helpful. You will find "Counseling" under the "Our School" tab.

A Tanager Place therapist will soon be starting at Washington. She will be able to meet with 8-10 in ongoing counseling sessions. She will be in our school on Mondays.

Spring job shadow applications will open up at the end of November.

Washington Wellness

Acrylic frames were purchased for restrooms, they will be installed above hand dryers and will hold flyers about a variety of mental health topics (October's topic is teen dating violence)

Scheduling is underway for sexual health presentations and substance abuse awareness