

**Washington High School PTA
Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2017**

President Becky Lindwall called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

Principal Report – Mr. Cline

Mr. Cline opened the meeting spending a few moments introducing himself, providing a brief background on what brought him to WHS, and then proceeded into his Principal Report (see .pdf addendum).

Counseling Update – Name

Mr. Blanchard provided the Counseling Update (see .pdf addendum).

Executive Committee Report:

Secretary – Jen Boettger submitted the May 2017 minutes for approval. Andrea Norris made a motion to approve, seconded by Christina Mullins. Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer – Katherine Brokaw submitted Treasurer's report and the 17/18 budget for approval. Katherine reviewed some fast facts on the vast amounts of ways the PTA supports WHS. Leah Ferring made a motion to approve the budget. Seconded by Christina Mullins. Budget was approved as written.

Committee Reports:

Audit/Bylaws Committee – Ann Freeman

Conducted a successful audit in August. Bylaws have been updated and need to be approved. The changes proposed have been highlighted. Motion: Teresa Wake, Second: Christina Williams. Passed.

ONE*FUND – Kate Hogg

After being known for twenty some years as the Blue Chip Fund, the PTA decided to better reflect our school community and fund purpose by calling our fundraising drive "OneFund" -- using the tag line, 'Everyone counts -- Everyone succeeds.' A little ahead of last year, we are just over half way to our goal of a minimum of \$18,000 (with contributions last night, we are over \$10,000 including matching funds). (Update: As of Sept 30 we are at 14.1K) We are focused on reaching out to every member of the community, for donations of any amount. We are expanding outreach to teachers, staff, as well. Thank YOU for your contributions!

Membership – Kate Hogg

PTA membership is important because it contributes to a parent-driven advocacy organization in support of public education. We support city, state and national PTAs with our dues. We have about 90 members at this time. Thank you for joining!

Volunteer Coordinator – Kate Hogg

Safeguarding our young people is a primary concern in the volunteer program. We are working hard to have disclosure cards from every volunteer, and to provide some basic safety and protocol information to every volunteer. The district is also rolling out a new building visitor program that will automatically check the sex offender registry. Visitors and volunteers will use drivers licenses or state ID cards ideally to log in to a building during school hours only. Prairie has been using this system for a couple of years.

We've had a good turnout of volunteers for grounds, Warrior Closet, Warrior Pantry and Post Prom, with a few volunteers in every category, except maybe display cases! We have added a technology category: if you want to be involved in our social media or website maintenance, let us know!

Since Volunteers, One Fund and Membership are outreach and communication based, a couple other notes: Over the last couple of years, we consolidated communications using a google account for email and file storage, and the sign up genius for volunteer coordination. An observant member offered to reach out to families who join the Wash community during the school year -- an excellent idea we are pursuing -- which got us to thinking about having PTA materials in the counseling office for any new students, and also providing PTA materials to staff.

Grounds – Gina Kleman/Sashi Solomon

Excited to have 7-8 helpers, but we could use more! We are focusing on landscaping improvements and plan to divide and assign manageable sized areas to small groups. Maybe this could be a way to spend some time with family or friends or make new friends. The committee has arranged for free woodchips to be delivered from the City and are going to engage students to help with dispersing them.

Hospitality – Charu Chawla/Julia Weston

Freshman orientation dinner was a success and cookies for the open house all went well. Dinner for parent-teacher conferences are coming Mon. 10/16 and Tues. 10/24 and the committee will be requesting items from families to provide dinners for the teachers. They appreciate it greatly. Sign-up to volunteer time or food or supplies here:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054aaca82ea5fb6-fall>

Reflections – Teresa Wake

Reflections is a national PTA art competition and will not have submissions until January. The competitive categories are dance, visual arts, composition, literature, film, and photography.

Display Cases – Julia Weston/Becky Lindwall No report**Legislative – Denny Goettel**

Denny encouraged all to attend the School Board elections. Explained the Kirkwood bond issue and pointed out it is not an increase in taxes at all. Also wanted people to be aware of the school boundaries. He is concerned about how the shifting of boundaries will effect WHS. He plans to stay abreast with the state legislation and school board agendas when they convene.

Post Prom – Kara Heying/Dina Dusek

Kara reported she has received her list of volunteers who have signed up to work post prom but can always use more help. Need to raise \$17,000 in in-kind, cash, and donations. They have many subcommittees on which to serve including donations and games.

College Connection – Brooke DeWolf No report**Warrior Closet – Lesley Fleming**

Warrior closet is in really great shape right now. Lots of clothes and helpers but there is always room for more help. In need of sturdy, white, tubular hangers. Lots of size S, M and L, but could use lots of XL, 2XL, and 3XL in both boys and girls. Gym shorts are always in demand. The Closet now has a Facebook Page called Warrior Closet – but not the one in Smithville, MO. Ours has the Warrior logo.

Warrior Pantry – Jenny Woods

35 students participated each month last year. This year we have 35 signed up and 10-15 more pending form submissions. Picnic in the park is tonight in Redmond Park. 1st Ave Hy-Vee line of credit is over \$2,000. They give Jenny 10% off. Pantry is not temperature controlled over the summer so she moved perishables over the summer to keep them in good condition, but everything is back in and ready to go. There may be potential for needing help in distribution. The kids struggle with the stigma of being seen carrying their boxes of food. Confidentiality is key and these boxes are heavy, so help with distribution would be greatly appreciated.

Social Media/Website – Jen Boettger

WHS now has a Facebook page and a Twitter account (@crwashpta) as well as an email crwashpta@gmail.com that all of the leadership shares. If anyone likes to Tweet, I'm looking for a volunteer who would enjoy tweeting for PTA. The PTA pages on the WHS website are updated, but Jen is adding new content regularly.

New Business:

We are planning 2-3 evening programs, please help us spread the word. Hopefully dates will be set for the next meeting.

Marianne Ryan, mother of freshman Nick Ryan spoke on behalf of Workplace Learning Connection. She spoke about job shadowing. It's typically a 2-4 hour, one day shadow, and is a great opportunity for our students. Encouraged applications. Deadline is next week. Asked those present to please help spread the word. Jen Boettger said she'd boost it through social media.

Oct 24 & 26 FAFSA reps will be available at parent-teacher conferences to help with filling out the FAFSA forms. Slots are limited so sign up ahead.

Meeting adjourned at 10:14 am

Jen Boettger, PTA Secretary