



West Ridge Middle School Wildcat Club September 12, 2014 General Meeting Minutes

Prepared 10/19/14

Welcome and Call to Order at 9:10 am.

Approval of Minutes from September 8, 2014 Executive Board Meeting

Motion: Julia Thompson to approve minutes. **Second:** by Alisya and Jen Salas. All in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report presented by Anjali.

In May approved budget of \$59,165 in revenue, and \$59,080 in expenses approximately. Have residual school supplies revenue of \$1,970 in income. Total other income \$12,125.09 which includes pass through funds for Athletics.

Committee Reports

No Hassle Fundraiser-by Christi Lowin. We fund everything the booster club does. This is our only fundraiser for the year. For example: we provide staff start-up money at the beginning of the year, \$100 holiday cards, pie day, and supporting other general staff development. In addition for students we fund Celebrate West Ridge the fall carnival, Medieval Day, the 6th grade pool party, etc. Please contribute.

Discussion of past No Hassle Fundraiser balance approximately \$40K in the prior year. Currently at \$32K.

EEF Teacher Fund Campaign-by Leslie Abbott. Goal is to raise money to fill the gap from what the District receives from the State and what it takes to fund the District. October is the teacher fundraiser where we have a "Smackdown" friendly competition between WRMS and HCMS to see who has the highest number of families participating in EEF donations.

Q: What does EEF fund at WRMS? A: The EEF teacher funding at WR is applied to the budget allowing for expenditures such as 2 band directors, 2 fulltime choir directors, 2 foreign language teachers, and enables us to keep lower class sizes.

Celebration WestRidge Fall Carnival-by Laura Pankonien. Oct 17th from 1-4 pm. [Wristbands](#) [Tickets](#) can be purchased on HUB. Please consider volunteering. lpankonien@gmail.com

Consider joining WRMS Booster Club Facebook page to keep up with upcoming events.

Funding Requests

Replacement of Welcome Mat for School Entrance damaged in 2013 "Great Flood". Damaged created bubbling and possible safety hazard. Cost is \$2,211.84. Board plans to use \$800 of

funding left over from the 8th grade legacy project to partially offset cost. Mat to say "Welcome to WRMS, It's a great day to be a Wildcat." Question about life expectancy. Item is expected to last for many years.

Motion: Jana. **Second:** Christi. All in favor. Motion Approved.

Supplement to Scholastic Print Magazine requested by Diana Silva. Campuswide ELA Scholastic Scope video/download option for 6-8th grades. Cost is \$1,155.

Motion: Debbie Brown, **Second** by Teresa Trelly. All in favor. Motion passed.

Chair Glides for Student and Staff chairs in all buildings. To replace tennis balls. Chair glides are supposed to last awhile. Board suggests we do this as a onetime approval. Cost is up to \$750.

Motion: Debbie Brown, **Second:** Julia Thompson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Upcoming Events

September 24 -Teacher Luncheon. Committee members are Jana Holley, Katie Hammitt and Heather Goldman.

September 26-School Dance for 6-8th grade. 7-9 pm. Decision made to extend to 6th graders this year. First dance is traditional and does not include the back gym open for basketball.

Presentation by Carl Hooker, Director of Innovation and Digital Learning.

Digital Parent Learning Course coming up.

Conducted a Parent pop quiz for attendees on Kahoot.it

Questions:

- 1)What does digital wellness mean? A: having a balance with technology.
- 2)When dealing with a technology issue with a child you should? A: Share your wisdom and pass along your values.
- 3)Is there an ability to lock an IPAD to a single APP? A: Yes through *Guided Access*.
- 4)You can block and whitelist certain sites on IOS at home, True or False? A: True.
- 5)How much time before bed should you turn off screens and dim lights? A: 30 minutes at least.
- 6) True or False, things can be posted online that are not permanent, like SnapChat? A: False.
- 7)Who is the best line of defense when it comes to cell phone usage and teenagers? A: parents.
- 8)Creating a good digital footprint for your child is important for what? A: Future employment, college acceptance, positive connections. 82% of prospective employees search online profiles of prospective employees.

Presentation by Kacy Davis, new Education technology position at WRMS. EEF helps fund positions such as these.

Technology cannot replace great teaching or great teachers...but we don't think of it as a fixit. Digital citizenship is of utmost importance and students need to know how to navigate technology successfully.

Projects this year include:

Edublogs-coordinating with English teachers to blog with more control. Allows teachers to see entire teacher's/student's blog pages and provides digital savvy skills such as knowing how to blog. Could college applications include a link to a blog perhaps with student's writing?

Other projects include *Google Classrooms*, *Collaboration* to engage students and see what excites and engages them, *Advisory Panels* with parents and students, and a *Technology Club* every two weeks during Wildcat time. Next *Technology Club* Meeting 10/20. Also working on "*Maker Spaces*" with Carol Reese to create a space where students can come and play around with technologies to foster creativity and innovation.

21st Century Learning. Goal that technology is integrated into daily life so that it becomes invisible.

New in 2014

- 1) Gaming policy. MS 2014 Restrictions. Automatically deletes inappropriate apps or does not permit them to be downloaded. Game Center Removed.
- 2) Approved App list coming soon. Recommend getting student's IPAD passcode and checking periodically. Remind student of Online contract and pledge. Parents will need to get students to delete general unapproved apps.
- 3) IMessage removed from new profiles.
- 4) Casper-Allows teachers to view and control student IPAD use in classroom by Focus on a particular APP, Clear passcodes, see IPAD charge levels, allows 4-9th grade to use TI Calc and address issues such as locking the calculator software during 8th grade STARR. Saves District money from having to purchase costly calculators.

Discussion of Tools for Parents on the LEAP website at www.eanes.isd.net