

## Washburn Parent Council Meeting Notes

December 11, 2018 6:30pm

Attendees: Diana Curtis, Erica Lebens-Englund, Dr. Emily Palmer, Jen Buss, Melanie Faulhaber, Tina Ham Peterson, Melissa Harritt, Heidi Knaus, Cindy Goehring, Deanna Diebold, Karen Stremick.

Parent Council Mission statement:

1. Build positive and welcoming relationship between parents & school community
2. Support school initiatives & goals:
  - a. Communication (spread the word among families)
  - b. Financial support (fundraisers)
  - c. Service support (volunteers)
  - d. Educational resources (bring in guest speakers on important topics of interest to parents)

[http://washburn.mpls.k12.mn.us/parent\\_council](http://washburn.mpls.k12.mn.us/parent_council)

Agenda:	Owner	Time
Welcome & Introductions (meeting protocol and introduce yourself)	Diana Curtis	6:30-6:35
Administration Report	Dr. Emily Palmer	6:35-6:50
Parent Liaison Report	Erica Lebens-Englund	6:50-7:00
SY 1819 Budget Review + current financials	Diana Curtis	7:00-7:10
Election & Induction of new co-chairs	Diana Curtis	
Committee Updates and Volunteer Needs	Diana Curtis	7:10-7:20
Open Forum on Ideas	Diana Curtis	7:20-7:30
Adjournment		7:30

### Welcome & Introductions

#### Administrative update:

Well into planning for next year. New courses and course changes for next year. Pleased with course offerings to encourage students to take more difficult courses. No more Honors courses – all advanced courses have ability to get college credit.

Ethnic studies – some items built into regular classes.

Q1 report cards– 47% of grades were A. Staff and administration are doing a hard look at the students given Fs. Staff has had honest and hard conversations about helping the students to try to determine what needs to be done. Free and reduced lunch student population is 36% of school but received 77% of the Fs.

Reviewing graduation data – want to look at who is not graduating – missed ESL by 0.2% (averaged over 3 years 2015-2017). New data coming in February to include the 2018 grads.

Free and reduced lunch – at 36% but needed to get to 40% to get Title 1 funding. Our allocation in 2018-2019 was \$241k as targeted title. Targeted title will not be offered next year. District is looking at predictable staffing. - looking at # of students per counselor (350 to 1), AP (500 to 1), Social workers (600 to 1). 7 period day money staying (because levy passed). No 2.5% cut because of the levy as well.

#### Open questions for Dr. Palmer

Tardy issue – teachers are reporting students are making it to class on time.

Hours changing email – preliminary data students and staff majority wants to keep the hours the same. The key takeaway is to don't have school continue past 3pm.

#### Parent Liaison Update:

Give to the Max was successful - \$18k (up from \$15k last year)

Latino Parent Council and Somali Parent Council – attempt 4 per year for each group. Would like at least 1 rep from Parent Council and 1 parent from Site Council.

Next meeting is Thursday January 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm-7:30pm

### **Washburn Parent Council Meeting Updates**

#### **Budget Review:**

Budget was presented and approved. Projected ending cash balance is \$10,231

Expected NET receipts: Egyptian Dinner \$0, Battle of the Bands \$900, Poinsettia Sale \$500, Plant Sale \$2,100, Senior Party \$7,500. = \$11,000

SY 2018-2019 use of prior cash balance = \$4,395

Recap of expenditures: Washburn Cares \$500 + estimated \$500 from Poinsettia sale, Landscaping \$500, Directory \$300, Teacher breakfasts \$800, Ethnic snacks during parent meetings \$400, Speakers/presenters \$1,000, QuickBooks Online \$50, ParentBooster 501c3 renewal \$345, Senior Party \$11,000= Total net expenditure: \$14,995

**Financial Activity** - Washburn Cares has \$1400 left for their operational budget. All funds raised during the poinsettia sale are allocated to Washburn Cares. Expenses so far are the online directory (\$298), business renewal (\$270), teacher appreciation meals (\$610), QuickBooks Online subscription (\$50).

#### **Leadership**

Jennifer Buss and Melanie Faulhaber were inducted into the Parent Council as the new co-chairs for the year. Missy Line and Diana Curtis will help out as needed. Jennifer and Melanie are looking to do more communication on the Parent Council to get more parents informed of their options of what Parent Council offers. The Parent Council has 2 webpages for communication – one on the [http://washburn.mpls.k12.mn.us/parent\\_council](http://washburn.mpls.k12.mn.us/parent_council) website and one on <https://washburnparentcouncil.weebly.com/>. We have the vehicles to get the word out and we need to work on more communication.

**Online Family Directory:** Online directory is open all year to add family information. Sign up at <http://join.myschoolanywhere.com> and use the code **WashburnMpls**. Spread the word so more families sign up! Emails are sent out about our various events to the people who are signed up.

#### Committee Updates

**Washburn Cares** – The Poinsettia sale was successful. Net profits of the sale of the poinsettias was \$1,125. Donations via the web during the sale were \$165. Cash donations during the plant pickup were \$20. Donations on the web starting in December were \$780. \$30 for prizes. Total profit for Washburn Cares is \$2,060. Senior pictures for 28 students, student council purchased wardrobe cabinets for clothing. Gift card drive for \$1700. Continuing to collect gift cards at the school performances. Selling tshirts again this year – 50 shirts

now. Will look to sell them online. Gave out turkeys with a Thrivent Grant thanks to Tina Ham Peterson. Also gave gift cards with the turkeys.

**Give to the Max Day** – The MN day of giving was Thursday, November 15th. This is setup directly with the school and the funds raised go towards academic needs. A golden ticket was awarded to Washburn High School.

**Barnes & Noble Book Fair** - Co-chaired by Deanna Diebold & Lynn Henschel. Money raised is given to media center in the form of B&N gift cards to purchase needed books. Activities include publicizing the event via social media & to feeder schools and coordinating student performers the day of the event. National Honor Society students assist with gift wrap and the book table but to need parents for supervision. The event happened Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup>. It went reasonably well. Big snow storm and the band didn't show up. Percentage for next year will be reducing. Students were moved into an area to the back of the store so the available space for the performances is not ideal.

**Senior Party** – Need someone to take over the ownership of the evening at the event as Tina will be flying out of the country the next morning. Melanie and Jen will look to include this need in their welcome email.

**Adult learning opportunity** – Linda Madson has offered to do a forum. It could be tied into the school based clinic. "It's that easy" – consider Jan 17<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Volunteer Opportunities:**

Parent Tour volunteers – Tour guides needed. Sign up here.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4ea9a62ca3f94-parent>

Sign up Genius Coordinator – this role would work with Erica Lebens-Englund to setup and monitor the various sign up geniuses that are sent out. Examples are the fall and spring teacher appreciation meals during conferences, homecoming decorating and chaperoning, picture day, and parent tour guides. This is a great role that doesn't require a lot of time.

Landscape Committee Coordinator – this role would coordinate with the current volunteers on the landscape team. There is discussion of having Washburn Wednesdays from 9-11 starting October 24<sup>th</sup> to do cleanup and fall preparation around the school. Some random evening or weekend times are also being discussed.

Landscape Committee Volunteer – this role would help others on the team to maintain the grounds around the school. The more people on the team, the less work per person.

Senior Party Leader – this role would oversee the activities of the Senior Party. It's not a lot of pre-work. Most of it is just that night.

Senior Party Volunteer – volunteers for Senior Party will be chaperones at the event. The event starts after the graduation ceremony and goes into the early morning hours. The senior party is a great event as it allows the seniors to celebrate their accomplishment in a safe environment.

Egyptian Dinner Communication Volunteer – this role will coordinate the communication and notification about the event as well as manage the EventBrite tickets for the Parent Council.

Outreach and Speaker Coordinator – this role would help to coordinate some evening speakers on various topics.

Please send an email to [washburnparentcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:washburnparentcouncil@gmail.com) if you are interested in filling any of these roles. We would love to have you join us!