



Westlake High School

General PTO Meeting

April 21, 2017 Minutes

- I. **Call Meeting to Order**— Kristin Paull called the meeting to order at 12:07
- II. **Approval of February 24' 2017 Minutes**— Tiffany Hildreth made a motion to approve minutes, Diane Taaffe 2nd. Minutes approved as posted on the WHS PTO website, now final.
- III. **Student Council, Jimmie Fields and Berkeley Barnett (Co-Presidents)**. Elections for next year were completed and there was a Student Council retreat to Camp Buckner to work on leadership, plans, bonding, etc. Next year President is Matteo Brunel and VP is Julia Flowers. The student council initiated a Spring Pep Rally to recognize the Spring sports and the tradition was continued and held last week and also included fun things like a teacher lip sync battle. The Junior Student Council held a raffle benefiting Austin Speech Therapy. Student council beginning to shut down additional activities as the school year winds down.
- IV. **Speakers – 3 unopposed school board members, Christee Bybee, Jason Paull, John Havenshrine. Key topics discussed:**
 - *Each candidate spoke briefly on their motivation to be on the school board:* Christee to give back as her kids had great experience, Jason went to WHS and was on EISD Revenue Generating Task Force and recognized his finance background could be of use and John has a liberal arts background and feels his style of listen, learn, patience will benefit the board discussions.
 - *What do they see as the district's short and long term challenges.*
 - i. Short: Transfer students as this creates ~\$3M revenue generation for the district however also raises challenges to class size.
 - ii. Long Term: Budget overall as the tax rate on property was lower than expected meaning less tax dollar revenue. Budget seen as the greatest threat between teachers and students as all items are interrelated and come back to budget. Not just fiscal but also values and what statement we want to make given our choices. Facility planning was mentioned with respect to who we want to be in the future. Also mentioned was continuing to focus on the Social Emotional Learning of not only the students but also the teachers at WHS.
 - *How will the Board know what values and concerns of the Eanes families as there is no ethnic representation of the non-angle communities on the board?* The Board set a goal around community engagement at their last Summit meeting and are working on what that will look like. John mentioned his planning professional background and he would like to tap into the planning professionals in the community to help address this challenge as they would in their day to day work. They asked that we encourage diverse candidates to run for the Board, as they want diverse representation. They also encouraged people to show up at the Board meetings and also meet with Board members to share their diverse thoughts (people who think differently than them) to ensure they are heard.
- V. **Principal Report, Steven Shands (for Mr. Ramsey)**. Steven shared information on several topics as Mr. Ramsey was away at a Challenge Success meeting:
 - Zenith is on for the next two nights, great show

- Parking will be available starting April 26th at 5pm. Anticipating that there will be a change from a single spot to a specific parking lot. Juniors will still have 2/3 of the year parking.
- STAAR Testing begins first week of May.
- PROM is May 13th at the convention center. It is 9-12 “come and go” with a casino night, big prizes, etc. Parents asked to encourage kids to attend as attendance dropped last year.
- Graduation is May 25th and all going well there so far.

VI. Counseling Department – Ms. Heidi Sauer – Heidi (or counseling member) attends all PTO meetings to answer questions and share key events. Key items shared were:

- AP Testing: Extensive communication has been going out via Skyward and Total Registration. Asking AP teachers to communicate as well reminding kids they have to be there early (no bus riding) and to find their room in advance.
- College Signing Day: A banner will be laid out with students asked to draw Logog and sign names to help kids see who else is going where they are.
- Scholarships: May 18 is awards night. PTO gives 6 scholarships which will be recognized then.

VII. Treasurer’s Report – Karra Guess (in Gayle Yenawine absence): See separate document. Overall it has been a strong year and most budget goals were exceeded in fundraising categories.

VIII. PTO Presidents report – Kristin Paull and Karra Guess.

- PTO Bylaws were updated to make them current and effective. See attachment on the major changes made. Dianne Taaffe motioned to approve, Anjoli Zutshi 2nd. New Bylaws passed.
- May 19th is the last General PTO Meeting

IX. Committee and Club Reports: time was limited so only a few key updates:

- Allocations: Lucinda shared that in the past 10 years we have given more then \$500K to teachers and classrooms.
- Relay for Life: This relay is a fundraiser for American Cancer Society and is held at WHS field on May 6th this year. PTO will have a team and would love to have many parents on the team. Watch for information on this on Facebook and Chap Connections.

Next PTO meeting: May 19 Noon in Chaps Room is next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Appendix A: Bylaw key changes.

Westlake PTO Amended Bylaws Summary of Major Changes

Item	Old Bylaws - 1991	New Proposed Bylaws
Membership	Required paying dues to join	Membership is automatic for parent(s) of a current WHS student OR parents of student(s) who attended the previous year, who have ben nominated for the executive committee with students who will attend next year, and for staff/faculty
Annual Meeting	Required once/year	Now required once/year in May
Proxies	Allowed	Not allowed
Voting by email	Didn't exist	Allowed
Initial Directors	The PTO originally had 61 members on its first board	Deleted
Executive Committee	Used to be five of the 61 board members	Board deleted; Executive Committee now is the board, minimum of seven members, maximum of twenty
Nominating Committee	Appointed by the President with specified members	Deleted – Executive Committee nominates future EC members
Notices	By telegram, US mail, or personal delivery	By email
Standing Officers	President, Co-President, President-Elect, Co-President Elect, Treasurer, Secretary	Changed offices to: President or Co-Presidents, deleted President/Co-President elects, added Past President and/or Past Co-Presidents
Other Officers	As chosen by President	As chosen by Executive Committee from time to time
Spending	N/A	Executive Committee shall use reasonable efforts to expend all funds down to a minimum of \$20,000 in reserves; exceptions made for multi-year projects or other commitments
Standing Subcommittees	Scholarships, Concessions, Directory	As appointed by the Executive Committee from time to time
Other Subcommittees	As chosen by the board from time to time	As chosen by the Executive Committee from time to time.
Indemnity	Standard indemnification provision	Added that the Treasurer must purchase board of directors' insurance every year from an A-rated company at \$1mm per occurrence and \$2mm in aggregate
Books and Records	Treasurer has to keep them at the registered place of business	Treasurer has to keep them online with others having access
Fiscal Year	August 1 st – July 31 st	July 1 st to June 30 th