



Westlake High School

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 5, 2020 – 5pm

WHS Media Center

ATTENDING: Brandon Jackson, Matthew Everett, DeAnn Anderton, Lori Blakesley, Karin Brown, Whitney Child, Nicolette Fike, Lynne Benham, Colette Baugh, Kerrienne Sabey, Gary Twitchell, Jared Huff, Julie King, Harmony Seiter, Kelcy Furey,

WELCOME: (Lynne Benham)

INTRODUCTIONS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

REVIEW APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Lynne Benham) Kerrienne Sabey, moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting; seconded by DeAnn Anderton. Minutes approved.

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FUNDING DISCUSSION (Jared Huff)

- Michael O'Connor is our athletic director, he is full-time paid by the district (previously this was a job shared by several teachers and coaches.) His jobs include.
 - PACE training
 - Ensuring eligibility and compliance with the requirements of over 500 athletes
 - Transfer to the school
 - Grades
 - Participant is taking a full schedule
 - Annual renewal of coaches' credentials
 - Playing fields/courts are ready for competitions
 - Scheduling of umpires and officials
 - Schedules accurate on the website, including rescheduling rain-outs
 - Continuing education of coaches
 - Coaches symposiums
 - Communication with region, district, and state officials
 - Supervise all sub-varsity competitions
 - Disseminate tickets, especially during the COVID limitation of 25% capacity
 - Thunder Awards -- recognition of top athletes of each sport
 - Westlake Way -- a set of ethics/character traits to espouse becoming a good person, not just a good athlete.
- Kelcy Furey mentioned Mr. O'Connor is also the girls' basketball head coach and asked if he has time to do it.
 - Mr. Twitchell said he was an interim coach, but because he is well-liked and it's a good fit, he has stayed longer in the coaching position. There is a long-term plan to hire another girls' basketball coach, but they want to hire a good coach, not just a coach. If O'Connor didn't coach, Jared Huff would have to take away from his academic duties to coach.
 - Chelsea Budge and Mike O'Connor help each other.

SCC CHAIR & CO-CHAIR (Gary Twitchell opened it for nominations)

- CHAIR: PARENT MEMBER nominations:
 - Lynne Benham was nominated by Kelcy Furey, Lynne accepted the nomination.
 - No other nominations
 - Gary moved for approval
 - Unanimous approval (12)
- CO-CHAIR: FACULTY MEMBER (or parent)
 - Nicolette Fike nominated Karin Brown
 - No other nominations
 - Gary moved for approval, Kelcy Furey seconded, unanimously approved

SCHOOL LAND TRUST MINI TRAINING (LINK SENT, PLEASE WATCH IT)

- Gary has to sign off that everyone has watched it. Please notify Natalie Clark if you did not receive it.

SAFETY/EMERGENCY PROCEDURES & INFORMATION (Brandon Jackson)

Review and explanation of the “In an Emergency” poster

- “Hold” and “Secure” are business as usual
- “Lockdown” is shelter out of sight
- “Evacuate” would be a fire and check-out procedures would need to be implemented
- “Shelter” at another location, two of which are known by administration but not the general public

Lynne asked about communication to parents when “something goes awry.”

- Command center is Gary Twitchell/SSPD.
 1. The school emergency team meets quickly to plan a course of action (just evacuate to outside or to a predetermined center)
 2. Brandon will coordinate efforts to make sure kids are safe.
 3. Gary communicates with the four district contacts. (“This is the situation; this is what we are doing about it.”) The district may also tell Gary to change the evacuation point.
 4. The district decides how to disseminate the information to the parents. This ensures uniformity from all clusters to the parents.
 5. The bus garage would be informed to help transport students if necessary. [The council did not want a copy of the emergency plan that teachers have.]
 - a. We will likely have to be at 2 of 3 locations because we have a lot of students, which may create a lag in transportation and communication. This lag may be 15 minutes to 2 hours. Kelcy suggested we inform parents of the reason for the lag because parents will be more comfortable with a lag when they understand the procedures and protocols. Gary reminded us that information may not be detailed when it comes initially.
 6. Safety Week in March
 - a. Previously there was a Thundersvision video depicting an intruder with various scenarios. This seemed to help students know what to do in various situations.
 - b. Brandon invited a parent to be on the safety committee, which would require 30-45 min after school once per month. Kelcy will advertise for this on the Facebook page. The committee would help come up with plans and debrief on drills.

ITEMS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. PTSA focuses on teacher/staff appreciation. Parent feedback is positive: teachers are appreciated. Email her if we need anything.
2. One parent has requested continuity on what students are expected to do on Wednesdays.

- a. Wednesday must be a learning day. It was suggested that it be an abbreviated lesson that prefaces Thu/Fri or a review of Mon/Tue. It should not be new material for the most part. It could be an introduction to new ideas, but it should not be overly burdensome. It should be 30 minutes or less of time. Wednesday is NOT a day for teachers to add MORE, it is a day to prepare for the online lessons already required.
 - b. Athletes are likely going to go online once their seasons begin -- especially once they get closer to state playoffs -- so teachers need to be prepared for online lessons. Teachers should focus on building a really solid education on the four days, not adding more work.
 - c. The council would like to see the remote Wednesdays continue so students can more easily see teachers. Gary would like to still offer at least one section of all required classes to help alleviate overcrowding. We also plan to go to 1-1 devices. This abbreviated schedule has only been approved for one semester. Julie: 180-day is a legal requirement, but they are discussing this with state school board reps. She would like each community to be allowed to choose for their own needs. About 10 people email weekly to request the 5-day week, but it's always the same people. The board will change as the data changes, so we need to "assume flexibility." She hears this should be continued and she would support the continuation of a 4-day week, especially as long as students may be quarantined. Gary still counsels teachers to be prepared for 100% online. Indoor practices may cause a higher degree of exposure. Parents seem to have appreciated the more open opportunities to go online if necessary.
3. Was there an assembly today? Gary explained how that happened. (25% capacity and students got a ticket. Other students stayed in their classrooms.)
 4. Good feedback about Sadie Hawkins and appreciation they had the activity.
 5. Please pass on to the teachers: "Adopt a teacher" has parents bring gifts to her so she can give them to teachers.