

Washburn Parent Council Meeting Notes

May 10, 2018 6:30pm

Attendees: Missy Line, Erica Lebens-Englund, Melanie Faulhaber, Jen Buss, Diana Curtis, Heidi Knaus, Tina Ham-Peterson, Charles Spolyar, Trisha Hanson

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

Agenda:	Owner	Time
Welcome & Introductions (meeting protocol and introduce yourself)	Diana Curtis & Missy Line	6:30-6:35
2018-2019 Budget Update & Parent Liaison Update	Rhonda Dean / Erica Lebens-Englund	6:35-7:00
Upcoming Events AP/IB Proctors – May 2 nd through May 25 th – <u>more volunteers needed</u> Battle of the Bands – Sunday May 20 th Senior Party – Thursday June 7 th Need food volunteer for night of event Looking for a co-chair to work with Tina <u>Need more volunteers</u> , especially for the night shift <i>Committee updates included in this packet</i>		7:00-7:10
Financial Review		7:10-7:15
Discussion on structure for the Parent Council for SY 18-19		7:15-7:30
Adjournment		7:30

Welcome & Introductions

Summer Construction by Rhonda Dean – The first big day is May 18th as the band and choir room will be moved as well as the DCD hallway which holds 3 math classrooms and 3 science classrooms. Band will move to gym 103. Choir moves to the Auditorium. The math and science classes will be located throughout the building. The student schedules will be updated to reflect the classrooms. Teachers have also informed the students where they will be starting on Monday, May 21st. The last day for seniors is May 31st so the space in the building will be freed up a little. Friday June 8th will be a Field Day and the students won't be in the classrooms. There is a committee planning the events. Preliminary plans are to have food trucks, dunk tank, ultimate frisbee and other fun events. There will be construction on some Saturdays. For those who live near the high school, please have patience during this construction time. To subscribe to email updates, follow this link: http://washburn.mpls.k12.mn.us/washburn_construction_updates.html

2018-2019 Budget Update by Rhonda Dean - Washburn was reinstated \$766,000 for the middle and high school allocation and was given targeted title funds of \$241,800. 14.15 FTE staff were reinstated.

Parent Liaison Update by Erica Lebens-Englund – The Family Involvement Plan was discussed during the Site Council meeting and also briefly discussed during the Parent Council meeting. Briefly went over a calendar of events for leadership meetings, academic and social and emotional learning events, cultural, and volunteer needs. We have discussed academic boosters for at least a year but it was brought up to truly work toward this goal. It would be great to get a parent or two who are passionate about this to help lead it. The counseling team is starting a Counseling Advisory Committee. They are looking to recruit a few parents to meet with them and help bring the parent perspective to their group.

General meeting notes:

During the site council meeting, it was discussed to have a way to communicate to families to be able to reach out to seasoned Washburn parents to help the parents navigate high school. We discussed ways to flag these parents in the online family directory. In order to make this successful, more families should sign up. It is also good to be signed in the directory as there are occasional parent council communications that are not sent through the school email distribution.

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.

Stress and anxiety of the students continue to come up as a topic of conversation, both in the site council and parent council meetings. Parent council discussed working with a few groups that already have mental health speaker series and have them present at Washburn. It would be great to have a volunteer to head up the coordination of this effort. If anyone is interested, please email washburnparentcouncil@gmail.com. We may consider setting up an email list for parents to opt in to communication surrounding the mental health topics.

Give to the Max fundraising was brought up during the site council meeting. Since the Parent Council has volunteers to help with that, we briefly talked about adding specific projects for funding. One idea is to have Give to the Max always focus on funding academic needs. Potentially this could help fund some efforts of an Academic Boosters.

The counselors have videos to help students with registration. Parents wouldn't necessarily think to go to the counseling page so we will add a link on the parent council site.

Linda Purcell, who is the Social Studies District Program Facilitator, reached out to us a month ago wanting to present to the Washburn parents. Part of her job is to support the growing ethnic studies program in the district. When discussed with the Parent Council and Rhonda Dean, it was recommended that she present to the Site Council. She did provide a link to an article that explains the bigger picture: https://mneep.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Ethnic-Studies_AUGUSTe2.2017.pdf

Committee Updates

Plant Sale - May 5th was pick up date. Orders were sorted on Friday so it made the pickup more efficient. Net profit is @\$2,300. Proceeds will go to support the Senior Party. Just learned that Washburn has tents in case we need them for future sales.

AB/IB Proctors – Signup Genius is out and more proctors are needed.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4ea9a62ca3f94-apib1>

Battle of the Bands – May 20th 3-6pm - We have eight total bands, two of which are staff bands. Of the six, I believe four are from Washburn and two from Justice Page. We'll have a drawing, t-shirts and while there is no charge to get in, we appreciate donations made at the door. The schools will get a percentage of the food percentage.

Senior Party - Senior party committee met again. We have a food chair, but she can't attend the event. She would like to have someone to take over that night. She is working out the details and has great ideas. Laundry bags, tags and wristbands have been ordered. I created a poster to put around the school to encourage sign ups. Erica is putting it in the

newsletter regularly. We have about 106 registered right now. We extended the lower price of \$25 until 5/9 in hopes to get more registrations. People often rsvp late, even with the higher price of \$40. Erica has hired security for the night. We received our first gift card donations. I am contacting Southwest to see if anyone knows about the logistics of check in and loading buses from the convention center. The volunteer sign up has been published and we've gotten some takers. We need more, especially for the night shift. We **need a co-chair** for the event to learn the ropes.

Washburn Cares - We have spent the last two monthly meetings learning more about what it is like to be a homeless/housing insecure youth. We had a housing insecure youth come and tell us her story, as well as two people who work at YouthLink supporting students who are living independently. It's been educational and heart-breaking. Our goal was to learn how we can better serve the students at WHS who are experiencing housing insecurity. We determined that educating teachers, other students, and parents about resources available in the area was a big need. We learned that we are not the 6 degrees separated from homeless youth that we would like to think we are, but more like 1 or 2 degrees and that having good information about resources can prove very useful. We bought acrylic flyer displays and are hanging them around school, as well as including the information in future newsletters.

We are upping our game on the **clothes closet and toiletries** available to students as well. We purchased new underwear, socks, sports bras, and African American hair care products as a way to fill in the gaps. We have talked all year about the need for more accessible feminine hygiene items beyond the one tampon given out by the health office. We purchased a large supply and have set up a system with the nurse to supply girls who are in need. We want students to have access to these items without having to tell their life story.

We are providing as many as **15 reduced price prom tickets** to senior students in need as recommended by the social workers.

We are looking for Boy/Girl Scouts or other groups interested in a **service project** as a way to collect school supplies, backpacks, toiletries, and winter gear.

We are looking forward to next year and **spreading our mission earlier and more often**. We are optimistic about the support we have gotten from Parent Council and WAC and feel we are on a good path supporting our students.

New parent recruiting – Invited incoming freshman families who signed up for newsletters to our May meeting. Unfortunately no incoming families made it to the meeting.

About the Parent Council

The Washburn Parent Council provides volunteers and programs to support our staff, students and teachers throughout the school year. The Parent Council is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.



Meet our Board

- Diana Curtis - Co-Chair [email](#)
- Missy Line - Co-Chair [email](#)
- Erica Lebens-Englund - Parent Liaison [email](#)
- Charles Spolyar- Treasurer
- Jennifer Buss
- Deanna Diebold
- Denise Dieffenbach
- Tina Ham-Peterson
- Heidi Knaus

Committee Chairs

Washburn Cares - Heidi Knaus
Senior Party - Tina Ham-Peterson
Give to the Max Day - Melanie Faulhaber & Jennifer Buss
Poinsettia Sale - Meighan Middleton
Barnes & Noble Book Fair - Deanna Diebold & Lynn Henschel
Egyptian Dinner - Abir Ismail
Plant Sale - Linda Madson
Battle of the Bands - Beth Gyllstrom
Landscape - Beth Forsline
Teacher Appreciation Meals - Laura Norris

Parent Council Projects/Tasks & Volunteer Needs

[2018-2019]

August/September

- Teacher Breakfast – Teachers 1st Day Back [8/xx]
- Welcome Back Night & Freshman Orientation [8/xx]
- Picture Day [8/31]
- Curriculum Night [9/xx]
- Homecoming Dance [9/28]
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October

- Picture Re-takes [10/8]
- Teacher Dinner @ Fall Conferences [10/16]
- Fall Conference Greeters [10/16]

November

- Give To the Max Day [11/15]
- Washburn Cares Gift Card Drive [November-December]
- Poinsettia Sale [November-December]

December

- Barnes & Noble Book Sale [12/2]
- 8th Grade Open House Greeters [11/30]
- Washburn Cares Gift Card Drive [November-December]
- Poinsettia Sale [November-December]
- Prospective Student Tours [December-February]

January

- Prospective Student Tours [December-February]

February

- Teacher Dinner @ Spring Conferences [2/14]
- Spring Conference Greeters [2/14]
- Prospective Student Tours [December-February]

March

- Plant Sale Online Sales Start [3/3]
- Egyptian Dinner [To be Determined]

April

- Battle of the Bands [To be Determined]
- 8th Grade Registration Night Greeters [4/xx]

May

- Plant Sale [First or second Saturday in May]
- Test Proctoring IB/AP [First three weeks of May]

June

- Senior Party [6/xx]

Yearlong Tasks & Committees:

- Miller Mart
- Landscape Committee
- Directory
- Washburn Cares
- Outreach Educational Nights/Guest Speakers

Volunteer Teams/Committees

1. **School Wide Events** (greeters/helpers)
 - a. Welcome Back night [August]
 - b. Curriculum night [September]
 - c. 8th Grade Open House [December]
 - d. 8th Grade Registration Night [April]

2. **Teacher Appreciation Meals**
 - a. Back to school Breakfast
 - b. Fall Conference Dinner
 - c. Spring Conference Dinner

3. **Miller Mart**
4. **Landscape Committee**
5. **Family Directory**
6. **Homecoming Dance**
7. **Fall Fest (?)**
8. **Outreach Educational Nights/Guest Speakers**
9. **Prospective Student Tours**
10. **Washburn Cares Outreach**
11. **Barnes & Noble Book Sale**
12. **Poinsettia Sale**
13. **Egyptian Dinner**
14. **Plant Sale**
15. **Battle of the Bands**
16. **Test Proctor Recruitment**
17. **Senior Party**
18. **Give to the Max Day**

VOLUNTEER TEAMS – Key Leaders

Year Round Events / Committees		
School Events (greeters/helpers)	Teacher Appreciation Meals (year round)	Miller Mart (year round)
1. Erica Lebens-Englund*	1. Erica Lebens-Englund*	1. Skip Stoelzing
2. Missy Line	2. Laura Norris	2. Tina Ham-Peterson
3. Diana Curtis	3. Tina Ham-Peterson	3.
Landscape Committee (year round)	Family Directory (year round)	Washburn Cares Outreach (year round)
1. Beth Forsline	1. Diana Curtis	1. Erica Lebens-Englund*
2. Amy Melcher	2.	2. Heidi Knaus
3.	3.	3. Tina Ham-Peterson
Committees with specific dates/months		
School Pictures (Sep)	Homecoming Dance (Oct)	Give to the Max Day (Nov)
1.	1. Erica Lebens-Englund*	1. Erica Lebens-Englund*
2.	2.	2. Melanie Faulhaber
3.	3.	3. Jennifer Buss
Barnes & Noble Book Sale (Dec)	Poinsettia Sale (Dec)	Prospective Student Tours (Dec-Feb)
1. Deanna Diebold	1. Meighan Middleton	1. Erica Lebens-Englund*
2. Lynn Henschel	2. Jan Omacht	2. Tina Ham-Peterson
3.	3. Deb Lilly	3. Shari Anderson
Egyptian Dinner (Feb)	Battle of the Bands (Apr)	Plant Sale (May)
1. Abir Ismail	1. Beth Gyllstrom	1. Linda Madson
2.	2. Charles Spolyar	2. Denise Dieffenbach
3.	3.	3.
Test Proctors (May)	Senior Party (June)	Outreach Educational Nights
1. Deb Keefe*	1. Tina Ham-Peterson	1.
2. Erica Lebens-Englund*	2. Open	2.
3.	3. Open	3.
Fall Fest ? (Oct)	Academic Booster	Senior Awards
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
Fundraising	Large Event	

* Washburn staff member who helps with this event