

## Washburn Parent Council Meeting Notes

November 8, 2018 6:30pm

Attendees: Diana Curtis, Erica Lebens-Englund, Dr. Emily Palmer, Jen Buss, Melanie Faulhaber, Gabriela Maza-Morán, D'Ann Urbaniak Lesch, Melissa Harritt, Deanna Diebold, Trish Hanson, Karen Stremick, Jennifer Mortensen

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	6:35-7:00
Parent Liaison Report	Erica Lebens-Englund	7:00-7:10
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: Dr. Palmer mentioned the State of the Schools was presented at Site Council tonight. Graduation rates are being closely reviewed. Graduation rates have significantly risen in last 5 years at Washburn but the numbers still show room for improvement. The School Improvement Plan (SIP) has 13 goals on it. All information on the Washburn website.

The tardy policy was discussed - the policy is "get to class on time". Teachers have freedom on consequence. The bar of 40 tardies was targeted. There was a call to parents on those who were identified last week as excessive tardy. Needed to address this before the end of quarter 1. Still determining what the staff has capacity to do for tracking. Parents liked the idea of consistency between classrooms. Bathroom use was brought up.

Security was brought up by parents– the entire building is locked during school. Front desk coverage by security staff starting at 7am – 5pm. During the school day must ring the bell to get in.

Parent Liaison Update: Next Thursday is Give to the Max Day. More communication coming soon. Native American Family Involvement Day is also next week. 8th Grade open house next Thursday – 6-8pm. Continuing to work on the Educational Benefits forms that we are trying to get more families complete.

Some parents attend CPEO classes and they want to know how they can get involved?

Next meeting is Thursday December 13<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm-7:30pm

## **Washburn Parent Council Meeting Updates**

**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. 117 plants were sold with a net profit around \$1200.

**Give to the Max Day** – The MN day of giving is scheduled for **Thursday, November 15th**. This is setup directly with the school and the funds raised go towards academic needs.

**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 is scheduled for **Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup>**.

### **Volunteer Opportunities:**

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!