

Washington Middle School PTSA Board Meeting Minutes December 16, 2019 • WMS Library, 6-7:30 pm

In attendance: Cliff Meyer, Laura Crain, Elaine Harger, KL Shannon, Emily Lieberman, on phone: Ya'Vonne Hubbard

1. 5:59 Meeting called to order

2. Approval of minutes from 11/18/19; motion made by Laura, Elaine seconded, unanimously approved.

3. The principal's report was provided to the executive committee in email:

Principal Report

Budget/Levy

Our levy application was submitted on December 11th. For reference, the current levy allotment that Washington Middle School receives is almost double what schools were eligible to apply for during the new levy application process. In the past, WMS received approx. 600,000 dollars and are now looking at a decrease even if we get the levy allocation. We applied for both the \$480,000 and \$350,000 funding streams. The current levy funds HOST, Seattle U and 5 WMS staff either full or partial FTE. As a part of the levy application process, each school is required to present in person to a levy selection committee. Washington Middle School's presentation for the levy is January 8, 2020. Awardees will be notified March 2, 2020.

The SPS Budget process will start at the end of February 2020. In an effort to start planning, the BLT will start reviewing this year's budget to identify what WMS will lose if we do not receive levy funding and start to plan for budgeting for 2020-21. Additionally, it should be noted that WMS's 2019-20 master schedule has a .6 music (orchestra) position that is not a part of our current WSS staffing allocation. This position was funded partially through a gift of .4 FTE from Garfield High School, which will not be available for 20-21, and .2 FTE funded through FOWM to support an introductory class for 6th graders. Because of this, the additional .6 FTE should not be considered as part of the master schedule for 20-21. We will review the FTE allocation from the district and make every effort to support our electives, however, I wanted to make sure families understand that this year's orchestra program was solely funded by sources outside of the Washington Middle School's allocated budget. The BLT will be looking for other partnerships or funding opportunities to support the FTE and program shortages.

Incoming 6th Grade Night

Due to the Board vote on TAF not occurring until January 22nd. The incoming 6th grade night and tours dates are being changed. Please see below changes:

No on TAF – Tours will be on January 27th and 6th grade night on January 28th.

Yes, on TAF – 6th grade night on January 28th. (No tours until before school starts in August)

PTSA Meeting Attendance

Ms. Washington has blocked the 2nd Monday of the month 6-7 for PTSA meetings. When dates change it is hard for me to readjust. Please let me know if the reoccurring date has changed.

4. Financial Report:

- About \$4,000 has been received in Annual Fund gifts, plus some money from HOST fees.
- Expenditure approved: The full board, via email, approved spending \$3,000 (half from the opportunity grant line item and half from the racial equity line item) for a social studies speaker from the Unspoken Truths Museum.
- Opportunity grant request: Principal Hunt requested \$3900 from opportunity grants to buy t-shirts for students and staff. Emily moved to approve, Ya'Vonne seconded, unanimously approved.
- Fall Fundraising Campaign: letters are in the mail

5. Racial equity initiatives

- \$5500 remains in our budget allocated to RET work
- Ideas floated: trainings, consultant, a movie or movies, funds for curriculum development, guest speaker, event for Black Lives Matter at School week?

- Elaine will ask Ms. Meyerson about RET priorities, & KL will ask her whether the BLT could use money for PD on this topic.

6. Upcoming Events

- General Meeting on February 3 [note: the meeting was planned for 1/27; the date was changed via email after the board meeting]
- Issues related to the 2020-21 school year will be decided in January by the Seattle School Board. Cliff is reaching out to Zach DeWolf.
- Next Board meeting: we need to change the date because Director Hersey's meeting will be 1/13.

6. Nominations Committee: need to convene in January. Need current and incoming 6th grade families, including those not currently on the PTSA board. Also need membership drive; we currently have 24 members.

7. Other Business

- Purple Press will go out this week; get announcements to David.
- Cliff will reach out to Jeremy Mazner about membership and Katrease Hale about events.
Ongoing bike rack of additional topics
 - Unfilled key roles: Events, Membership, Fundraising, Advocacy, BLT (1 position?)
 - Retreat followup

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm

Minutes taken by Emily Lieberman