

## WMS PTSA General Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2020, 6-8:30 pm (6 pm dinner and social time), WMS Library

- 1) Meeting called to order at 6:47 pm
- 2) Minutes from 10/28/19 approved: Casey Sommers moved, Laura Crain seconded, 10.12.2020 unanimously passed
- 3) Announcements
  - a. It's We Love Our Staff Week, organized by PTSA; we are bringing treats for teachers daily, more welcome!
  - b. Membership forms available; paid and free memberships available. Please join.
  - c. We have openings on the PTSA Board for next year and the PTSA is looking for both Nominating Committee and PTSA Board volunteers.
  - d. The Budget Committee starts meeting in March, and the PTSA is seeking volunteers interested in participating in the Budget Committee.
  - e. Introductions of those present (40+ people; many didn't sign in)
- 4) Conversation with Rainey Swan, Executive Director, Principals' Association of Seattle Schools
  - a. Major concerns expressed by parents/guardians fell into the following categories: (1) lack of communication from the principal and/or district following recent events at WMS; (2) concern that the district is retaining bad teachers and principals and moving them around between schools; (3) some substitute teachers have not taught the needed curriculum, or have been poor classroom managers, and sometimes the students are unsupervised with no teacher or sub; (4) little communication to rising 7th and 8th grade families about what WMS will look like next year.
  - b. Requests made by attendees included: (1) build trust and goodwill through communication; (2) apologies but also accountability; (3) address and fix the issues above. Ms. Swan (the principals' union representative who was at the meeting) thanked families for sharing their concerns and said she would share them with WMS and district leadership toward a shared goal of building a warm and collaborative relationship between WMS leadership, staff, and families.
  - c. Next steps for resolving these concerns include the 2/13 (Thursday) district meeting at the Garfield Auditorium, 6-8 p.m., which families were strongly requested to attend. Following midwinter break, Ms. Hunt will hold a meeting with families.
- 5) Parent involvement opportunities: The PTSA provides several opportunities to get involved in supporting WMS:
  - a. Your membership strengthens our voice (and gives you a vote); sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/joinWMSPTSA> or request a free membership by sending in the form that will be coming home in the school directory soon.
  - b. The PTSA is seeking volunteers to join this year's budget committee and next year's

PTSA board, email [info@wmspts.com](mailto:info@wmspts.com) to volunteer.

c. This is teacher appreciation week and there are a few more days to shower our teachers and staff with treats; sign up at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054ca4a829abf49-sweet>

**In Attendance:**

Doug Irvine [dgirvine@gmail.com](mailto:dgirvine@gmail.com) Casey Sommers

Katie Egolf [Kathryn.egolf@gmail.com](mailto:Kathryn.egolf@gmail.com) Emily Lieberman

Rosa Lefkowitz [Lefkowitz@hotmail.com](mailto:Lefkowitz@hotmail.com) Laura Crain

Jon Barr [Jon.barr@pnsl.gov](mailto:Jon.barr@pnsl.gov) Robert Weinsheimer [rweinsheimer@gmail.com](mailto:rweinsheimer@gmail.com)

Sharon Khosla [sharonkhosla@hotmail.com](mailto:sharonkhosla@hotmail.com) Tim Dailey

Denise Dailey [Denise.dic@hotmail.com](mailto:Denise.dic@hotmail.com) Gary Carlson [garyecarlson@yahoo.com](mailto:garyecarlson@yahoo.com)

Brian Connolly [brian@connolly.net](mailto:brian@connolly.net) David Wasserman

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Culver [blueglas@gmail.com](mailto:blueglas@gmail.com) Jose Miranda [mirandape@yahoo.com](mailto:mirandape@yahoo.com) Cliff Meyer

KL Shannon