



## Washington Middle School Community Meeting

November 15<sup>th</sup> 2021 Via Zoom• 6:30-8:30 pm

**Meeting called to order at: 6:09**

**Welcome and Introductions from your PTSA.**

**Schools First Presented Melissa Pailthorp.**

Please vote on school levies

EP&O levy provides schools money from the state, helps pay for teachers' salaries and support staff; like school nurses and custodians. More information can be found here: [Link](#).

BTA V levy is critical for building and safety upgrades, and technology. [Link](#).

February 8<sup>th</sup> please vote, ballots will arrive January/February.

Schools first is asking for our PTSA endorsement and contributions to the campaign.

SPS is doing town halls on their website regarding this.

**WMS Admin Team Presented Adrian Manriquez (House Administrator)**. School slides are here: [Link](#)

Cell phone policy was sent via e-mail a few weeks ago.

Issues:

18 months since many students have been in school. Watch clip: teen voices: Dealing with digital drama. [Link](#).  
Students need strategies and tools for safe use.

Tips: Make sure privacy settings are set to private. Tell your student to think before they post, comment or share, and talk about students' digital footprint.

Kindness counts; If you wouldn't say it to someone's face, they shouldn't post it

Report Misbehavior or unsafe profiles -Utilize report functions.  
The school does not have a lot of power without community reporting.

**Basic Safety Rules presented by Devin Murphy:**

Texting: Be respectful, be Careful, avoid text message chains during the school day

Pictures: Ask permission before taking pictures, video or forwarding. Don't publicly embarrass people. If they ask you to remove it, do it without complaint.

Cell Phones: Don't be impulsive, be safe, keep phones at home or on silent and put away.

How Families and caretakers can support:

Keep phones at home. If not possible, talk about keeping them silent and put away.

Talk to your student about inappropriate use, cyberbullying and harassment.

Report inappropriate social media to the platform so it can be removed ASAP.

**Chat questions/comments:**

Question: Who is a safe person for students to report to?

Answer: Any trusted adult at school they feel comfortable with.

Question: How are students who view student to student aggression being Supported?

Answer: When we know about it, administration or counselors are checking in with them.

We also have a class meeting if it impacts a larger community.

Question: How are students and caregivers suppose to report incidents?

Answer: To administration or counselors, please note, they will be unable to given confidential information such as consequences.

Comment: A resource for for talking to your kids about appropriate device use:

<https://www.commonsense.org/education/digital-citizenship>

Question: Do students request restorative justice circles or are they offered by adults for the students?

Answer: Students can request. Adults have asked but do not enforce, as it requires all parties to be willing.

We have done whole class circles as well, so that is a little different. It also depends on the situation.

In critical instances, we recommend and as always support students through the process.

Comment from Administration: We can work with the PTSA to get some RJ training at the next general Meeting. <https://youtu.be/ZAXcyGw8Q2Y> - How to set up Screen Time on an iPhone to monitor student access to iPhone.

**Restorative Justice (RJ) Practices at WMS presented by Phuong Tran.**

Restorative Justice is Intentionally creating space for accountability and building relationships at the sametime. Around 10 staff members are now RJ trained, our goal is to train 100% of staff. See school slides for more information.

**PBIS: Positive Behavior Interventions and support presented by Adrian Manriquez.**

PBIS is taught at Advisory lessons, and reinforced with the student store and posters around the school.

WMS work is ongoing, examples are spirit week, and small parties celebrating successes.

**Social and Emotional Learning at WMS presented by Ms. McKinney and Ms. Pan our school counselors:**

What we know: Some young people are in crisis, some students internalize: This causes anxiety, stress, school avoidance. Others externalize with behaviors.

WMS goal is to continue to connect with student and families to support all students and make sure all feel welcomed, safe and can learn.

SAD: Seasonal Affective Disorder is real and discussed (see school slides).

Kids need to feel psychologically safe to learn.

The school is doing many things to support our community (see school slides).

Some changes/regressions are normal see slides for when to reach out.

Feel free to reach out to the school for support.

How you can support your student tips discussed, see slides.

Parents self-care tips discussed, see slides.

Wellness App suggestions, see slides.

Community Resources, see slides.

**Q&A with WMS teachers Facilitated by Evin Shinn.**

40 questions from parents and families submitted prior to the meeting are addressed by the teacher panel.

Teacher Panel participants:

Mr. Chris Robertson: 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math teacher

Mx LP Wilson: Technology teacher

Mr. Ole Lydell Carlson: WA state History, Language arts

Mr. Tom Townsend: Language arts, humanities, ELL specialist

**Question:** What are you doing to create a warm and welcoming environment:

**Answers:**

Social/emotional focus in the classroom, taking time with the curriculum.

Community and Restorative Justice circles.

Check in with most kids individually daily. Letting kids know we care.

Challenges with masks, it's hard to hear the students and for them to hear us.

Creating an OK to make mistakes, culture, or wherever you are, it's OK.

Students play games to create a fun environment.

The classroom is designed to be welcoming, with motivational posters.

Check-in with students and thank the class for being here.

**Question:** How can families find out what is happening in the classroom?

**Answers:**

Materials, current and past are posted on Schoology and the Source (future).

One Drive 365 is available to all the parents to see student's work.

The Source: Map and testing scores, students just took SBA (what they learned last year).

**Question about Homework:**

**Answers:**

30 minutes of reading a night is recommended, newsletters, project based learning activities.

No homework from some: Research shows it is not helpful, and inequitable.

They are encouraging family time instead.

Catch-up opportunities at home. Focus on reviewing skills they missed are encouraged at home.

**Question: What can families do to support teachers at this time?**

**Answers:**

Keep your students' cell phone at home.

Communication and connections with teachers is appreciated.

Let your students know school is important and you care about them.

Be present in your child's life.

Get your kids to play less video games and read more.

Update your contact information with the school.

**Community Passageways presented by Ted Evans, Director.**

Community Passageways has been at WMS as a support team, for the last few weeks after school, building rapport.

Community Passageways would like to know how they can support our community.

**Community Brainstorming Session facilitated by Ginger Culver: How can we support our students and staff, and build a closer community?****Goals:**

Increase student safety

Build community

Support teachers

**Ideas:**

After school having a mentoring presence and mentors helping make better choices, reaching out to other community members/businesses.

Partnership with Amazon fresh.

Albert Shiver presented what Community Passageways does: Connects with youth, mentors, provides advocacy for youth and are trained to de-escalate conflict and prevent it.

Ted Evans presented what Community Passageways has been doing.

Coming after school and building relationships with nearby businesses.

They have found some of the students are just hungry.

Community Passageway would like to have a facility to host classes or do more community building.

Zoom Chat ideas for Community Passageways:

De-escalation, self-defense, or safety workshops.

More protein centered snacks when leaving school.

Raising money for gift cards to use at nearby businesses.

Asking businesses to donate gift cards.

Food drive.

Video time is related to struggles with socialization.

We could do a food drive for after school snacks - non perishables

Glover Empower Mentoring (GEM) is also a resource for conflict de-escalation.

Schoolwide cause to bring students together.

How can caregivers support Community Passageways in being included in the school community inside of the building?

Would Community Passageways be able to do some de-escalation training for students and families and maybe some self defense/safety workshops?

Partnership meeting needs to happen with all WMS administration before further progress.

#### **PTSA Membership Meeting Facilitated by Jen Drain.**

Motion to approve updated standing rules made by Barb Trosper, seconded by Jen Drain, approved if we have a quorum. New standing rules here: [Link](#)

WMS PTSA requested candidates for nominating committee presented by Barb Trosper:

Current members: Elisa Ridley, Brynne Veitengruber, and Gwyn Sernesky.

No other volunteers stepped forward.

Minutes from WMS General (Community) Meeting June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Approved.

**Meeting was Adjourned at: 8:02**

**In Attendance: 66**

Jen Drain

Keyonna Saloy

Ginger Culver

Elisa Ridley

Gregg Greene

Barb Trosper

Michael Chan (Chinese interpreter)

Brynne Veitengruber

Andrea Fontana

Bryanna Pearson

LP Wilson (Tech Teacher)

Toan Huyn (interpreter- Vietnamese)

Joanne Griesemer

Bill Brewster

Sharon Khosla

Nhi Huynh

Ursula White-Oliver

Lili Liu

Albert Shiver

Brianne Pan

Maria Lee

Linda beck

Manys Sandres

Michelle Junter

Hareg

Ray Reskusich

Jeah Sam

Diana Andsager  
Chris Robertson  
Tara Urs  
Siobhan R Morgan  
Brook Coleman  
Natasha Marsh  
Devin Murphy  
Adrian Manriquez  
Don  
Katie Egolf  
Jen Gotanda  
Ole Lydell Carlson  
Connie Fung  
Feysal Mohamed (Somali int  
Carola Equiagaray (spanish  
Breanna Pearson  
Katrina Hunt  
Diana Andsager  
Eloisa Soria  
Griselda Marinez Lopez  
Hareg  
Jessica (TAF)  
Joanne Grissemer  
Jon  
Julie  
Keyonna Saloy  
Leann Gorman  
Linda Beck  
Lona



LP Wilson (Tech Teacher)

Maria

Alfreida McKinney

Melissa Pailthorp

Michelle Hunter

Phil Johnson

Tara Urs

Ted E.

Phuong Tran

Ray Reskusich

Salome

Wina De Leon

Jennifer Wittenberg

Xiufang Wu

De Rosaliea