

**Washington Middle School PTSA Board Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2021, via Zoom 6:30-8:00 PM**

Present: (Board) Jen Drain, Brynne Veitengruber, Kat Barr, Chris Robertson (Guests), Ginger Culver, DeWright Brooks (Community Passageways), Elisa Ridley (Advocacy/Legislative) Sherman (Community Passageways), Albert Shriver (Community Passageways), Ted Evans (Community Passageways), Apraisjah Gee (Community Passageways), Tasha (Community Passageways), Jeah Sam (Extended Learning Coordinator, TAF), Harold Nunnelly.

--- Notice of WMS Board actions taken prior to this Board Meeting via email--

On October 26th, 2021, Bill Brewster made a motion through email to approve an opportunity grant for 250 Padlet licenses for \$1500, for schoolwide use throughout the 2021-2022 school year: Approved.

Meeting called to order at 6:38 by Jen Drain.

Connection Activity.

Community Passageways presented by Ted Evans and Community Passageways members:

Community Passageways started working with WMS last week. The plan is they will be at WMS throughout the year, as long as city allows. So far there has been a positive response from students and staff

What Community Passageway does (<https://www.communitypassageways.org/>):

Be a presence, build relationships and inspire and engage our students.

Last week they surveyed the area and started building relationships with the community businesses around the school.

Focus: Collaborations with parents and community

Seattle Police Department (SPD) incidents reviewed and discussed weekly

Last week they met with WMS security and Vice Principals after school, currently a barrier is: It is unclear how accessible the school is to Community Passageway.

City Funding.

50-60 members.

Focus of outreach is usually age 16-24 however they do want to engage middle school students.

PTSA role: Connections with WMS administration, advocate for space inside the school for engagement and student support.

Possible ideas to build relationships: Gift cards from Amazon Fresh, pop-up events.

Collaboration with parents and families is available (8-9 people are available) for WMS.

After school activity opportunities are available to collaborate with students and families.

Through Community Passageways there is a vehicle is available for safe passageway home.

Community Passageways has skills to provide strategic and trained responses to violence prone incidents and individual and can work with our school community to help educate and support.

Updates:

TAF Update presented by Jeah Sam:

Student projects are starting soon. Student ambassadorships up and running,

Ambassadors consist of 22 students.

Ambassadorships are addressing hate and violence and bringing their community together. Building social skills and public speaking.

WMS PTSA asked TAF to talk about math and what is TAF at the upcoming community meeting.

Community Passageways discussed with Ginger Culver.

Community Passageways is involved because WMS administration is not able to do anything about safety issues outside of school.

Focus: What can we do as a community to make it safer in transit to and from school.

Community outreach and community building, not just parents involvement in support..

Community Passageways is not the police, they are a presence and support and trained for de-escalation.

Ginger will connect Community Passageways with James Bush if necessary.

Upcoming Community Meeting Agenda discussed:

New Phone policy, Why's, solutions happening in the school, wonder questions and help families feel heard, PTSA Co-Presidents Update - Jen & Keyonna.

Teacher Liaison Update presented by Chris Robertson:

It is unclear what is happening in other classrooms.

Teachers are under high stress/low morale/exasperation and there are no substitutes available.

Student behavior is more problematic this year, likely due to need for more socialization.

Ongoing issue of how you have students keep their masks on.

Face mask google form will be sent to teachers; some people might like KN95.

Hard to hear people with masks on teaching issues.

Promethean Smartboards in the classroom are no longer usable due to software. Flash software was discontinued.

Chris Robertson will send PTSA Board more information, so this issue may be crowdsourced out to our community.

Gratitude towards teachers is appreciated.

The student store is up and running this month with PTSA sponsored supplies.

PTSA Business:

Approval of Board Minutes from October meeting presented by Brynne Veitengruber: Approved.

Review Standing Rules, Final Edits—presented by Barb Trosper

Motion for Board approval of updated standing rules made by Barb Trosper, second made by Jen Drain: Approved.

Nominating Committee and Elections – Presented by Elisa Ridley.

Vice President and Secretary are priority positions to fill.

The Nominating Committee will be presented at the upcoming WMS PTSA Community Meeting.

Discussed keep a list of possible candidates for next year and focus on diversity.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:54 PM

Minutes Approved: 12/14/21