

# W+H PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Meeting Minutes

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*Date | time* October 14, 2021 7pm | *Meeting called to order by* Kerry O'Neill

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### In Attendance

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Over 40 participants between family and W+H staff

Meeting minutes from previous meeting were approved – 1<sup>st</sup> motion made by Kevin Kornecki and 2<sup>nd</sup> motion made by Tiffany Maiga.

### Updates from W+H Administration Team

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**Andy Webster** (Head of School) thanked the Parents' Association, Booster Club and all staff and families for making Fall Fair such a great day. It was so nice to have so many people including Alumni and international families back on campus for a fun day.

Mr. Webster also shared that COVID cases continue to be monitored in the school as well as the surrounding community. In the future there may be changes to the testing frequency and population if the environment dictates it. The first ones to be pulled back on would be the fully vaccinated. He also shared that the school has applied for state funding for testing to help cover costs when insurance companies stop paying for surveillance testing.

**Dr. Corinna Crafton** (Associate Head of school for Curriculum and Instruction) shared that a team of seven faculty members have been working on a Social Studies audit in the Lower School. The team is considering the NJ standards, the school's core values and the C3 framework in their analysis. The teaching for tolerance audit will continue through the winter with recommendations coming in the spring. The Middle School and Upper School audits will be completed next year.

Corinna also shared that a larger sustainability audit is being completed from PK through Grade 12 across all disciplines to identify gaps. In addition, she is partnering with Kirstin Rogers and Rubina Shrestha to develop a research hub to be used by teachers and students. The focus right now is on developing the architecture to be followed by a pilot.

Corinna is also working on faculty development and professional growth. The instructional coaching program is now incorporating further development for the coaches in both in house training and an online conference later in the year. In addition, they are working on formalizing the work on teacher evaluations and marrying them to development plans.

**JohnEric Advento** (Lower School Division Head) shared how he enjoyed his first Fall Fair and has enjoyed getting engaged in the school programs highlighting the creative work that Ms. Sari has been doing with the music program. He also thanked parents for their patience as the school works to improve COVID testing efficiencies. JohnEric and team are partnering with

parents to continue to achieve personal bests when it comes to after school pickups. He shared that the first Coffee and Conversation of the year was held this week and there is a short questionnaire on the LS Blog that he is requesting parents to complete. The Lower School parade will be on Friday, October 29. They are working on a way to be able to participate and see the kids outside. The school will be providing goody bags and treats. No outside food is allowed.

**Corinna Crafton** provided a MS update. Jennifer Rose was hosting an 8<sup>th</sup> grade meeting with parents to discuss communications and social media as a platform. Be on the lookout for special events coming in October, such as the locker decorating contest, movie night and Halloween costume dress-up.

**Bob Bowman** (Upper School Division Head) gave a huge shout out to Chef Anibal for his help with the US students during Fall Fair. He shared that the US is close to back to normal. Mid-term reports for new students and kids struggling are now available. Senior speeches are back to being in person in the Performing Arts Center, clubs have started back up (10 so far and more will be added), service learning has begun and Spirit Week just wrapped up.

**Bill Jenkins** (Assistant Head for Institutional Advancement) thanked the Parents' Association for running the first family dinner night pizza event for this year and for all of the families that purchased a pizza.

**Karl Miran** (Athletics Director) shared that a newsletter is now being distributed to keep families informed about what is happening in athletics. If there is something that you would like to see or don't need to see please provide that feedback to Karl as this is just getting off the ground. Fall sports are wrapping up and winter sports will be beginning soon. Ryan has sent out athletic eligibility requirements for all kids wanting to participate in winter sports. Please complete all of the required paperwork. Indoor sports are expected to happen as normal playing other schools. Restrictions are still being worked out and the environment is being monitored by the Pandemic Response Team for any changes that may need to be made.

All Divisions – school pictures should be distributed shortly. Please be on the lookout for the retake day.

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## Treasury Report

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Mona Vijay has applied for the WHPA bi-annual raffle license renewal. She gave a current update on banking funds of \$50k. Fall Fair revenues to date after expenses is \$4k. There are still some expenses expected so final numbers will be shared in November.

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## Communications Update

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Upcoming events being planned for the year:

- ❖ **Ram Run** tentatively scheduled for Nov 5, 2021
- ❖ **Monthly Family Dinners** one day every month from Nov - May
- ❖ **Holiday Boutique/Craft Fair** – Dec. 3, 2021
- ❖ **Basket Raffle** – Dec. 15, 2021
- ❖ **Book Fair** – Feb. 2-4, 2022
- ❖ **International Family Fun Night (IFFN)** – February 4, 2022
- ❖ **LS Valentines Dance** – February 14, 2022
- ❖ **Spring Gala** – April 23 or April 30, 2022

The Ram Shop has been impacted by the flood so it needs to be inventoried and relocated. The WHPA Board is working on doing that. Please bring in your donations and leave at reception. The team expects to have an online option for shopping open soon. In the meantime, if you need something, please email [parents@whschool.org](mailto:parents@whschool.org) and identify what you need and someone will be in contact with you.

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## Fall Fair

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The team is looking for feedback on what worked well and what didn't for Fall Fair. Some things discussed were:

- Corn Maze a big hit
- Race Cars a big hit
- Treat Wheel very popular
- Duck Pond didn't work so well
- The area where the Corn Maze was located was the only space without adult supervision so kids from all divisions used it as a hangout location.
- Suggestion made to separate cash and cc and pass on card charges to purchaser.
- When will more WHPA swag be available for purchase? Karl will reach out to boosters to find out best way for parents to request items.

If you have any additional feedback, please send to [parents@whschool.org](mailto:parents@whschool.org)

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## Next Meeting

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WHPA Zoom – November 11 at 7 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m. with first motion made by Kevin Kornecki and seconded by Shakti Jha.