

W+H PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes

Date | time Jan. 5, 2023 8:30am | *Meeting called to order by* Kevin Kornecki

In Attendance

Approximately 40 participants between family and W+H staff in person and online

Minutes were approved from the Dec. Meeting. 1st by Kevin Kornecki and 2nd by Vandana Puri.

Updates from W+H Administration Team

Corinna Crafton (Acting Head of School) shared that recent alumni will be visiting this week and meeting with students and parents. In addition, there will be an Alumni basketball games on Friday at 7pm as a part of the overall Winter Games event. COVID protocols continue to be monitored. are continuing to be monitored closely. At this time, masks remain optional. January and February will be spent planning for the 2023-2024 acadmic year in terms of staffing, enrollment, programing and budgets.

JohnEric Advento (Lower School Head of School) recognized the nice closing of the year prior to Spring Break with all of the concerts. Jan. 20th the LS will have a World Language Day assembly and a dress down day followed by a celebration of Lunar New Year on Jan. 27th with a dress down day. The WHPA will be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair January 31st – Feb 3rd and each Lower School class will visiting at a designated time frame to shop for books. A sign up genius for volunteers and schedule for he classes will be distributed shortly.

Jennifer Rose (Middle School Head of School) announced that Scribner House had the most points for the month of December and won a dress down day for Friday. Ms. Rose will hold her Middle School Coffee and Conversation virtually on Jan. 11th. There are many events taking place throughout the Middle School in January including a month of service events, Robotics BOT Ball Tournament planning, Odyssey of the Mind Competition, 8th Grade AMC 8 Math competition, Scripps Spelling Bee, Canstruction House Competition, Holocaust Remembrance Day, World Language Day events and Lunar New Year celebrations.

Bob Bowman (Upper School Head of School) shared that the Upper School will also be holding events and celebrations for World Language Day and Lunar New Year. In addition, students are planning the upcoming Symposium to be held on April 10th. The topic is Teen Mental Health Awareness.

Bill Jenkins (Development Office) advised that new lighting was put in over the winter break in the Oakwood Room and the AP Room.

Treasury Report

Kerry O'Neill provided the treasury report update sharing that the biggest update was regarding the WHPA Basket Raffle. She thanked everyone for contributing items as well as buying tickets. Lots of great prizes were given away and the WHPA raised approximately \$11k.

Division WHPA Update

Lower School VP Ashley Brazoban asked parents to be on the lookout for the sign-up genius looking for volunteers for the upcoming Scholastic Book Fair. Discussion around plans for Valentine's Day have also begun and plans will be shared shortly.

Middle School VP, Samar Noor advised that there would be a parent reception during the 2nd Trimester for parents to meet and chat. Look for more information coming soon. In addition, 8th grade parents have started to plan an end of year dance for the 8th Graders. This event is hosted by the 8th grade parents and not the WHPA.

Upcoming Events

Scholastic Book Fair will be held Jan. 31st – Feb 3rd. Lower School and Middle School students will be given an opportunity to shop with their classes. In addition the Book Fair will be open the evening of Feb. 3rd from 6-9pm during International Family Fun Night for shopping with parents.

International Family Fun Night will be held on Feb. 3rd. All W+H students and their families are invited to attend. It is a free event. It is a night for celebrating the different cultures that make up our community. Anyone who wants to share a part of their culture through a performance, craft or food item, please contact Shakti Jha @ shakti_jha@hotmail.com. More details of the event will be shared.

Winter 50/50 – tickets will be backpacked home for the Lower School and Middle School and will be mailed home for Upper School students. The drawing will be held on Feb. 3rd at International Family Fun Night.

Spring Gala – Adult only evening taking place at the Metuchen Country Club on April 29th. It is a night of dinner, dancing and fun. Invites and additional information will be shared shortly. Please save the date and plan on joining us for an evening of fun.

Upcoming Meeting Topics

February WHPA meeting scheduled for Feb. 2nd and the guest speaker will be Erin Maciorowski. She will be walking parents through the different websites and tech tools used at W+H to help people navigate where to find information.

March WHPA meeting scheduled for Mar. 2nd and the guest speaker will be Dina Congregane. She will be discussing student mental health.

Calendar of Events

WHPA Main Events Calendar

Jan. 31st – Feb 3rd – Scholastic Book Fair
Feb. 3rd – International Family Fun Night
Feb. 3rd – 50/50 Super Raffle Drawing
Feb. 14th – LS Valentine’s Day Dance
Mar. 2nd – Family Meal Pickup
Apr. 13th – Family Meal Pickup
Apr. 29th – Spring Gala @ Metuchen Country Club
May 1st – 5th – Teacher Appreciation Week
May 4th – Family Meal Pickup
May 17th – 20th – Tentative Scholastic Book Fair
June 1st – WHPA Thank You Luncheon

Next Meeting

Feb. 2nd @ 7pm

Meeting was adjourned (Kerry 1st and Vandana 2nd) at 9am and handed over to the young alumni panel for a special presentation.