

W+H PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes

Date | time Mar. 2, 2023 8:30am | *Meeting called to order by* Shakti Jha

In Attendance

Approximately 30 participants between family and W+H staff in person and online

Minutes were approved from the Feb. Meeting. 1st by Ashley Brazoban and 2nd by Kevin Kornecki.

Updates from W+H Administration Team

Bob Bowman (Upper School Head of School) shared that the Upper School will be celebrating Holi next week. It is a fun event loved by the students but be prepared to get messy. Upper School has a dance on March 9th with the theme A Night in Paris. On March 10th, there will be a faculty switch day where the students get a chance to become the teacher. Finally, the US Musical, Into the Woods will be held this weekend Friday & Saturday at 7:30pm and Sunday at 3pm.

Jennifer Rose (Middle School Head of School) announced that Scribner House had the most points for the month of February and also won the trimester. Ms. Rose also shared the many events and competitions that have been taking place across MS. AMC 8 results will be in next week, The second place winner of the spelling bee (6th grader) will be attending the regional event in March since the 1st place winner can't attend. Hayward House won the construction event and as a whole the MS collected over 1,200 cans. There have also been many Black History Month events taking place including a viewing of Race to be Human which will be opened up to the rest of the WH community in the spring. Finally, the trimester ended with sports awards, house Olympics and a very successful MS dance. MS Spring sports next week after a STEM week focused on Python this week.

JohnEric Advento (Lower School Head of School) thanked the WHPA for hosting a wonderful Valentine's Day/Kindness dance. The kindergarten students celebrated the 100th day of school. The 3rd grade held a bake sale fundraiser after finding a good cause in their Scholastic readings and hosted veteran Master Sergeant David Crenshaw and his service dog Doc where they presented him with a \$1,000 check to support his work – Canines for Warriors. Parent Conferences will be held next week. Looking forward, the LS will be hosting an author/illustrator visit on April 14th.

Gerard Gonnella (Director of Admission) Enrollment contracts were due back earlier this week. Please return them as soon as possible to secure a spot as the school will be moving forward with rolling admission and there will be a wait list forming for several classes. On April 1st, there will be an in person open house admission session on campus.

Rudy Brandl (Director of Communications) highlighted the many athletic triumphs for the winter season – Tommy O’Connor is the 1st every school indoor track state champ. Maiti O’Connor secured a state medal for diving coming in 6th in the state. The swim team won the 1st GMC title in the history of the school. Rudy also highlighted the many cross divisional Black History Month events that took place as well as the alumni involvement.

Bill Jenkins (Development Office) advised everyone to be on the lookout for information regarding the Golf Outing to be held on May 16th.

Treasury Report

Kerry O’Neill provided the treasury report update sharing that the WHPA budget is on track from a revenue and expense perspective. As we head into Spring, the expense side becomes bigger as the WHPA hosts many of the year end events across all three divisions.

Division WHPA Update

Lower School focus from WHPA for the year end will be on hosting celebrations for speeches, moving up ceremonies and year end parties for all of the classes.

Middle School will be looking forward to overnight trips to Philadelphia (7th grade) and Washington DC (8th grade). Concerts, presentations, ERBs and celebrations will round out the rest of the year.

Upcoming Events

Spring Gala – Adult only evening taking place at the Metuchen Country Club on April 29th. Evites went out so make sure you received it. If not, please check your spam. Additional communications will be coming. There is a 200-guest maximum so be sure to secure your tickets early.

Calendar of Events

WHPA Main Events Calendar

Apr. 13th – Family Meal Pickup

Apr. 29th – Spring Gala @ Metuchen Country Club

May 8th – 12th – Teacher Appreciation Week

May 4th – Family Meal Pickup

June 1st – 4th – Tentative Scholastic Book Fair

June 1st – WHPA Thank You Luncheon

Next Meeting

April 13th @ 7pm

Meeting was adjourned (Kevin 1st and Kerry 2nd) at 9am and handed over to the school counselors, Dina Congregane and Zoe Bongiovani for their discussion on Mental Health.