

# W+H PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Meeting Minutes

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*Date | time* Jan. 11, 2024 8:30am | *Meeting called to order by* Shakti Jha

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### In Attendance

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

Minutes were approved from the Dec. Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> by Archana Singh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jackie Oladeji.

### Updates from W+H Administration Team

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**Corinna Crafton (Head of School)** shared the results of the Sage survey. Over 400 responses were received. 85% favorable. The administration team and Chef Anibal have reviewed all results and comments. Highlights were sent in an email to the community. Some updates have been made and more to come. Thank you to everyone who participated. Dr. Crafton all shared that her administration team has been working on updates to the W+H strategic plan. An update will be sent to the community shortly. In addition, there will be a request for parents and other members of the W+H community (alum, past parents, students, faculty, staff) to participate in focus groups to share their feedback and inputs. Please be on the lookout.

**Bob Bowman (Upper School Head of School)** shared college application deadlines will continue now through March. Our students have received lots of good news already including several sports signings for gold coming in the next two weeks. He shared that affinity groups continue to meet and discuss issues and have had several opportunities to travel off campus to enhance their learning and share with the broader community. This includes a trip to MOMA and Rutgers for a competition. Currently, the 9<sup>th</sup> graders are reading a book True True which focuses on Jamaican heritage and the author will be coming to speak to the entire community.

**Kirstin Rogers (Middle School Head of School)** discussed the teacher for a day event that was held in the MS before the break where students got to share their passions and hobbies. The MS newspaper has gone to print and will be coming home this week. The MS is participating in a January house competition focus on doing acts of service in honor of MLK day. The spelling bee will be taking place in January. The next coffee and conversation is virtual on Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. The Feb one will be in person. This month's discussion will be on the book The Emotional Lives of Teenagers.

**Rudy Brandl (Communications)** let us know that 6 alums would be joining the panel this morning. College acceptances and feature profiles for the class of 2024 will be shared weekly starting today. Winter games will be taking place on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> so please come out and support.

**Bill Jenkins (Development Office)** introduced Katie Vetland who is a W+H alum (class of 2002) and recent new addition to the Development Office. She is former Alumni President and retired teacher.

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### Division WHPA Update

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Lower School VP Jackie Oladeji reminded parents that the Scholastic Book fair will be taking place Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> through Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Teacher time slots will be available soon and shared with parents so you can sign up to volunteer. Ewallet is available so you can put money on your kid's accounts. The book fair will also be open during International family Fun Night (IFFN). Day of kindness dance planning has been begun and will be taking place on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>.

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### Upcoming Events

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**Scholastic Book Fair** will be held Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> – Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>. 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. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6-9pm during International Family Fun Night for shopping with parents.

**International Family Fun Night** will be held on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 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 Youlin Tsai. Last day to sign up us Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> including a fashion show. Mrs. Byrne will be conducting a Finale song to conclude the event.

**Winter 50/50** – Moved back to the spring.

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### Next Meeting

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Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> @ 8:30am

Meeting was adjourned (Archana 1<sup>st</sup> and Jackie 2<sup>nd</sup>) at 9am and handed over to the young alumni panel for a special presentation.