



PARENTS ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Parents Association Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2025

Attendees

Bronwyn Roy
Martha Orzechowski
Laura Xanders
Martha Velez
Nancy Matthews

Julie Hoopes
Jen Cannistra
Rachel Mulcahy
Brie Gardner
Aeisha Lawrence
Nicole Brener-Schmitz

Amy White
Darrin Davis
Elissa DiCarlo
Mira Patel
Rebecca Edmonds
Emma Cowan

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 am.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October 16, 2025 meeting were approved. Motion by Amy White, seconded by Darrin Davis.

1. Welcome and Division Update

Courtney Clark, Head of Elementary Division

Courtney shared updates from the Elementary Division, including:

- Ongoing curriculum development, including implementation of Bridges in Mathematics.
- Year two of the Into Reading language arts curriculum.
- Continued review of how the school meets student needs, including social studies curriculum updates and teacher-developed reviews in Grades 2 and 5.
- A schoolwide focus on World Languages this year, with a committee reviewing curriculum and areas for growth. Recommendations will be shared in time for next school year.
- A review of report cards, including structure, content, and how student learning is evaluated.

- Expanded library access for students and participation in Battle of the Books for Grades 4 and 5.
 - Student Ambassador Group meetings with Courtney, partnership with Kaleidoscope, and continued service learning efforts.
 - A revamped Buddy Program.
 - Continued use of The Social Institute curriculum for Grades 5–8 to support digital citizenship and social learning.
 - Upcoming student concerts.
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2. Director Updates

Faculty Appreciation – Jen Cannistra

- A bonus Cava lunch for faculty and staff is scheduled for December 9, 2025.

Dad's Club – Darrin Davis

- Clay shooting event held two weeks ago.
- Library set-up support for the Book Fair this Saturday.
- Upcoming Hunter's Hound happy hour.

Mom's Club – Emma Cowan

- Upcoming Praline coffee meet-up.
- Hunter's Hound meet-up held last month.
- January event planned jointly with Father's Club.
- Future meet-ups will be announced in pairs to reduce scheduling pressure for families.

Parent Speaker Series – Bronwyn Roy (on behalf of Cindy Oh)

- Upcoming two-part speaker series with pediatric dietician Allison Wiseman, with sessions tailored to families of younger and older students.
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3. Advancement Update

Bronwyn Roy

- The school is researching alternative options for Dragon's Den following parent feedback about the current system.
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4. PA Leadership Updates

Martha Orzechowski

- Encouraged families to use the community feedback link so concerns can be addressed proactively.

Martha Velez – Reminders

- Mom's Club gathering: November 21
 - Spirit Day: November 24 (WES spirit wear; faculty vs. Grade 8 soccer game at 1:45 pm)
 - Thanksgiving Chapel and Grandparents' Day: November 25
 - Book Fair: November 25 – December 6
 - Middle School Concert: December 4
 - Grades 4–5 Winter Concert: December 5
 - Early Childhood Winter Concert and Grades 7–8 Band performance at Bethesda Row: December 12
 - Christmas Chapel: December 19 (Grades 2 and 3 performing)
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Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 am.