

Meeting Minutes – WMS School Improvement Team

Location: WMS Library

Date: 10/8/2026

Time: 6:00pm

Attendance

Carmela Sammataro, Principal

James Stringer, Assistant Principal

[Megan Herlihy](#), Assistant Principal

Corey-Ann Roche, Reading Interventionalist

B. Robinson

Review of WMS Vision Statement

“The Westerly Middle School is a community of diverse learners committed to excellence and respectful relationships. The school's programs are standards-based and designed to meet the unique social, emotional, and intellectual needs of every Westerly Middle School Student. Measuring success one child at a time, our school community strives to ensure that all students will become life-long learners and responsible, productive citizens.”

Review Agenda Items

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Meeting Agreements**
- 3. Reading of the WMS SIT Mission, Vision, and Values Statements**
- 4. [School Improvement Plan](#) Review Activity**
- 5. Open Forum**

Discussion Points

- This year we are structuring the District PAWS initiatives. We may eventually look to align the Value Statements with PAWS initiative.
- Meeting Norms and Agreements
 - Start on Time
 - End on Time
 - Step In/Step Out

- Student Centered
- Q- What does MTSS stand for? MTSS stands for Multi Tiered System of Supports. These are the different assessments, supports, classroom actions and interventions we have in place in the building to support student success.
- Conversation looking at the specific details and metrics listed in the current SIT. The current SIT has some typos and missed dates.
- RICAS data from 21-22 and 24-25 school years were displayed and discussed. Focusing on comparing the metrics that were in the current SIP to what is in the RIDE data portal and explaining how to read the data, and what the different performance bands with a focus on those Meeting and Exceeding Expectations.
- Taking a deep dive into the action steps:
 - We know we want to incorporate PAWS
 - We know we want to set new goals based on what our most up to date data is
- Priority 2 - Climate and Culture - Q - has this been looked at already and submitted. A - Yes, this has been completed. The handbook was reviewed and updated this summer and then submitted to the School Board for review.
- SIT was split into 2 groups: Group 1 looked at Priority #1, Group 2 looked at Priority #2-3
- Priority 1 share out:
 - There is some vague wording that needs to be cleared up
 - We are going to stick with the academic goals, but we are going to update with new data
 - Some things that have already been accomplished
 - There are some things that, such as the Professional Development Plan around differentiated instruction and specialized instruction need to be revisited as priorities this year.
 - Creating metrics for evaluating is vague wording
 - Stop point flagged for next time.
- Priority 2 share out:
 - Priority 2, Goal #1 Action Step 1: Struggle with the term “develop metrics for evaluation of all procedural documents to ensure alignment with guiding values.” This is referencing a rubric to ensure documents are aligned. This action was completed, but not with a rubric.
 - Priority 2, Goal #1 Action Step 3: This is something we think we have been very successful with this year. We have reviewed, revisited and articulated the changes in the policies for this year.
 - Priority 2, Goal #1 Action Step 2: Creating opportunities - SIT is one of the opportunities that we use to incorporate the community and get their feedback on our policies and procedures.
 - Priority 2, Initiative 2, Action Step 5 "Evaluate program success and develop next steps" We have done a great job of increasing the amount of after school enrichment opportunities for our students, what we need to work on is creating a way to understand the success of the different after school programs.
 - 5 minutes left - moving to Open Forum - any questions or concerns that we can bring back to the faculty or admin team.
 - For Grade 5 Transition we wish we would have had more information prior to August. The information at orientation was fantastic, but without an

older child or friends to talk with we did not have any information until the August Open House dates.

- One of the activities that we adopted from the Elementary School for our 5th grade students was an interactive walk through of the building to meet the different staff members (office staff, scheduling staff, nurse, librarian, food services, buses etc.). This was a great opportunity for grade 5 to meet more staff members and get another tour of the building.
- In order to help support students we have started to provide grades with time outside at the end of lunch, it helps the students get some movement breaks, get some energy out and reset before going back to learning the second half of the day.

Action Items

- Communicate next meeting date/time/room (CS): November 12, 2026, 6-7 pm, WMS Library
- Gather all data sets to analyze at next meeting

Other Notes

- Everyone is welcome every time, we would love to get to the point where students are participating and potentially leading some of these conversations. Everything we are doing here is for them, they should have a voice in this work.