

Walnut Hills High School Association

Meeting Minutes - September 18, 2012

Attendance: Molly Akin, Tom Anderson, Lucie Barchard, Marcia Boyd, Adrienne Brandicourt, Jeff Brokamp, Cathy Cooke, Laura Stith Deck, Meg Dietz, Leslie Druley, Kathy French, B. Gordon, Maria Horn, Jeff Lazar, Amy Kappers, Laurie Molloy, Doug Newberry, Carol Philpott, Renata Scanio Susan Shelton, Alex Stillpass, Stephanie Thomson, Pam Williams

1. Principals Report- Exciting to report that both the SAT and ACT scores for Walnut Hills students have consistently been on the rise. The National Average SAT score is 1500, and the average Walnut Hills student score is 1788. The ACT is even more impressive. Rising scores are reflective of more rigorous course work our students are taking which also results in our students taking more AP exams. 725 students took at least one AP exam this past year which was an increase from 575 in 2011. In addition, more students actually have access to AP classes because there has been a loosening of the entrance criteria. The new PA system has been something of a challenge but hope to have it worked out soon. It has clearly been an issue for safety drills. There is a need for College information to be on the daily Bulletin. It was suggested that the title "Parent Open House" be changed because it denotes that you can come and go as you please rather than it being a structured evening where you follow your child's schedule. Some new parents felt there has not been enough information communicated about parent night. Jeff Brokamp pointed out that WHIP 's new president Chris Fuqua wasn't able to attend tonight, but she is doing a tremendous job!

2. President's Report - Susan let everyone know that October first is the deadline for the newsletter and then thanked the 7th and 8th grade chairs for their work on the tailgate party.

7th and 8th grade – 647 people attended the tailgate party! They raised approx. \$2000. This the first time they had it on the field and it was OK. They have a lot of great suggestions for next year.

Walnut24 Update – Doug Newberry spoke. It's critical that we get more volunteers to help, and more kids to register. There are not nearly as many volunteers on the planning committee this year as in the past. It's been a great idea to include students on the planning committee and it was suggested getting the nut house involved as well. One exciting event will be the coach's detention. There seems to be a lot of buzz about it already! It is not necessary for a child to already be signed up on a team. They can just show up and be assigned.

Boosters Report – They have moved most memberships on line. There are high hopes that most of the teams will turn out for Walnut24. Girls Cross Country and Tennis teams are outstanding this year!

Business Meeting

Mr. Lazar pointed out that the blackboard is for teacher announcements so he suggested we put the WHHS Association meeting minutes on there.

1. Financials - Cathy Cooke moved to approve July finances; Stephanie Thomson second, and the July finances were approved. It was suggested there should be no donor names on the financials for everyone to see. Cathy Cooke moved to approve the August financials; Stephanie Thomson second, and the August finances were approved. The new all school web site should be running by the end of November. It will be much easier to navigate and will have a complete calendar. Any content ideas should be sent to Susan Shelton.

2. Constant Contact / Power School – Renata Scanio reported that the 2012 / 2013 database will be cleaned up by mid-October. The new directory will be ready for open house. There was discussion about how often a teacher should be updating power school. Jeff Brokamp says at least every 2 weeks. If that isn't happening, please let him know, although it is not always a teacher's fault.

3. ILT meeting September 19, 2012. LSDMC meeting September 20, 2012

4. Faculty Rep - Mr. Lazar is the faculty Rep. He says the staff is upbeat! We ask that he bring the WHHS Association any concerns from teachers, and any volunteer needs that the staff has.

5. Staff Appreciation – Meg Dietz wants us to remember that this is one of the last events of the school year so keep it on your radar. They will need volunteers, gift cards etc...

6. Perspective Student Open house – Sunday November 4th. We really want to show case our 3 new buildings! We need planning help and day of help. We also have been interfacing with our student ambassadors and should get in touch with the Nut House and Boo Radley.

7. 7th and 8th Grade – There was a request to use the old gym for the October Halloween Ball. Jeff Brokamp says it is fine as long as no other events are already scheduled.

8. 10th Grade –They are looking into a Sadie Hawkins dance for sophomores as they need more than one event.

9. After Prom – This is the first year that Walnut Hills will host an after prom. We have a great planning committee. 16 people showed up at the first meeting. Turpin High School has been very generous in offering to mentor us. They are lending us all their "Cruise Ship" decorations. It will cost approx. \$15,000. We hope to raise the money from parents and corporations. The evening will include gaming tables, inflatables, food etc... Meg Dietz suggested getting 11th grade parents to work so the 12th grade parents can enjoy the evening.

10. CIC – There is Lunch Bunch for upcoming testing. College Visits are scheduled by the guidance Office.

Last but not least, Dad's gone Nuts raised money for 2 gaters and 3 new golf carts to use for the grounds and during sporting events!