

**Minutes from School Without Walls High School
Home-School Association Executive Board Meeting**

August 25, 2016

1. **Melody Webb** called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. In attendance were executive board members Melody Webb, Tracey Weisler Duffles, Michael Cervino, Jennifer Boulanger, Musarat Bozai, David Brewer, Ed Crowder, Hafsatu Iro, Corey Parker, Tim Rodriguez, Richard Trogisch, Sylvia Isaac, and Simone Anderson. Also in attendance: Mark Engman, Vincent Morris, Carleton Ackerman, and Jason Bulluck.

2. **Administration Update.** Mr. Trogisch reported:
 - SWWHS enrollment is close to 600 – 585 students in the building and approximately 23 at GWU
 - AP results from last spring were that every subject had a passing average (3 or above)
 - All seniors graduated on time
 - Four new teachers have joined Walls – Adam Vrooman, biology; Maribel Pimento, Spanish; Sereeta Schmit, AP Statistics; Sasha Davis, Humanities, and Jane McLendan, Latin and Humanities. Also, Ms. Parascondolo will be on a 1-year leave this year.
 - The school is no longer using Jupiter Grades, even for communication between teachers and parents. ASPEN should eventually have the same capabilities. At this point, there is only one login per family and students have all been given that information. School Administration will use iContact to push messages to families. Full ASPEN functionality is expected by October.
 - The new grading policy does not use percentages but rather letter grades

3. **Committee Updates.**
 - International Night – Musrrat Bozai reported that the potential dates for International Night are March 15 or March 22.
 - Picnic – Jennifer Boulanger reported that the school picnic would be September 11 at Ft. Reno.
 - Grants – Melody Webb reported that Lori Goss will be heading up the Grant writing efforts and would be visiting with faculty members to encourage them to think of activities in need of funding.
 - Fundraising – Tracey Duffles reported that the fundraising plan has three main elements: 1) Low hanging fruit (Amazon Smile, Giant/Safeway, Walls Merchandise), 2) Green Bananas (\$1/day (or \$180/year) with mailings and a student phone-a-thon), and 3) Fruit Souffle (grants, auction, alumni giving, private foundation requests)
 - Technology – Mark Engman, parent co-chair of the LSAT, provided some background on the technology issue (the failure of DCPS, equipment needs of the school, and what is the technology vision for the school). Melody noted that the Auction last spring raised money to purchase student computers. Mr. Trogisch added that while DCPS gave the school \$120,000 after the renovation was completed, there has been no more money in the budget since then. Discussion centered on addressing the immediate technology needs and also longer term needs. A plan to purchase 50 Dell computers was

presented and Melody asked Board members to look at the plan with a vote by email within a few days. [Addendum, the vote was held via e-mail and passed unanimously. The 50 computers were purchased.]

- 4. Treasurer’s Report.** Michael Cervino presented the draft budget for Board approval. The draft proposed total income of \$66,720 without an auction, \$126,720 with an auction and total expenses of \$63,620 without an auction and \$67,620 with an auction. Discussion was around specific line items and the desire to increase funding directed to clubs (+\$5,000), to change policy to fund certain domestic trips for students (\$4,000), for a psychology stipend (+\$1,500), and for counseling services of Amanda Lindamood (TBD). It was moved and seconded to provisionally approve the budget and take it to the general HSA membership for approval at the September meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- 5. Funding Requests.** Michael presented funding requests. Mr. Trogisch noted that the process for funding requests is that they first go to the Principal for approval, then to the HSA Treasurer and President to be considered by the Board. As a result, one request for Model UN international travel was withdrawn. The other requests:

 - Kennedy Center -- \$750 for annual fee
 - Teacher/Administration Breakfast -- \$500 from the Principal’s fund

Both requests were agreed to unanimously.
- 6. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.