

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

November 10, 2015

1. **Melanie Gisler** called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. In attendance were executive board members Melanie Gisler, Michael Cervino, Carol Piwowarski, Jennifer Boulanger, Sue Bloom, Musarat Bozai, David Brewer, Jason Bulluck, David Kammerer, and Richard Trogisch. Absent: Tara Gill/Ed Crowder, and Melody Webb. Also in attendance were: Sylvia Isaac, Simone Anderson, Cricket Dadian, and Karen McSweeny.
2. **Minutes.** Minutes from October 13, September 8 and August 25 were approved provisionally. Members were asked to send any corrections to Jennifer Boulanger.
3. **Administration Update.** Mr. Trogisch reported that the Model UN club won in South Africa and will be attending the largest meeting in New York City. Walls will be sending 16 students to Holland next year and he is talking with the principal of the Holland school about receiving their students. The first advisory grades are in and the number of Fs and Ds are down. He attributed some of the decline to the new policy requiring teachers to give 2 grades each week and the resulting better communications. There is a new basketball coach and practice starts this week. Mr. Trogisch is working with the National Park Service on renovating the field behind Francis Stevens. The volleyball team won the city championship.

Mr. Trogisch updated the Board on the latest developments from the last LSAT meeting. The issue was initiated by SWWHS parents 4 years ago with the Office of the State Superintendent for Education (OSSE). OSSE decided that students with dual enrollment would have the same grade bump as students in AP courses. The only courses with the bump are those that fulfill DCPS graduation requirements. Melanie Gisler raised concerns that this policy is causing divisions in the school and urges that the school and the LSAT continue to work on this issue.

Ms. Isaac reported that the school has 4 nominations for Presidential Scholars. She also noted that report cards will be mailed on Thursday and handed out to students on Friday.

4. **Communications Update.** Cricket Dadian reported that Penguin Nation has moved to a new platform that is working better than before. Anastasia Miller did the redesign which is more impactful than earlier. Another parent, Tammy Nelson, is joining the communications team to take over the “opportunities for students” section.

5. **Treasurer's Report.** Carol Piwowarski reported that to date, the HSA has incurred \$14,016 in expenses and total income to date is \$39,184. Funding requests:
 - Michael Cervino asked that the HSA reorder black hoodies which was approved unanimously. He noted that he plans a sale of the white hoodies.
6. **Model UN.** Karen McSweeny provided an overview for the Board of the financing of the school Model UN team. At this point, each student's family contributes the travel and lodging expenses for each student. The HSA helps defray the chaperone lodging and school entry fees. However, all entry fees and travel must be paid in advance. Discussion ensued about needing some sort of spending account dedicated to Model UN with appropriate oversight.
7. **Fundraising.** Michael Cervino reported that there was a fundraising telethon scheduled for Wednesday and that students would be making calls to parents. He also reported that there were three volunteers to help with the planned spring auction but was still working to identify one or two parents to serve as coordinators.
8. **GW MOU.** Access to the GW library has been restored to Walls students. David Brewster reported that discussions about access were continuing.
9. **Sports Boosters.** David Brewster and Sue Bloom reported that the Boosters next fundraiser would be next week at Brookland's Finest and 10 percent of the proceeds go to the Boosters. David reported that he is working on team rosters that include parent and student emails.
10. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.