

Principal's Coffee

President's Welcome

- I. Welcome Parents and West High Principals

Principal's Presentations and Q&A

- I. Principal - John McCabe
  - a. Would like a consistent presence of WPO at school
    - i. Taste of West
    - ii. Parent Trivia Night
    - iii. More opportunities for parents to meet with principals and counselors
  - b. Homecoming
    - i. Spirit Week October 2-6
    - ii. Ballots for homecoming court went out on September 18, 2023
  - c. Conferences are October 19<sup>th</sup>; virtual and in-person options will be available
  - d. October blast will come out next week
- II. Junior Class Principal – Beth Aromondo
  - a. Facilitates PSAT, ACT, and other standardized tests
- III. Sophomore Class Principal – Kate Piffel
  - a. Facilitates music, social studies, and language programs as well as LinkCrew and Black Student Union
- IV. Freshman Class Principal – Jamaal Heavens
  - a. Assists Kate with equity aspect as well as operational issues on campus
- V. College Counselor – Chris Lorenz
  - a. This is his second year in the role of College Counselor, but 18 years at West
  - b. Feed Your Future every Friday – generally in the cafeteria during lunch
  - c. Social media – trying to reach students multiple ways
- VI. Senior Class Principal – Mario Pupillo
  - a. 22<sup>nd</sup> year in education; 13<sup>th</sup> year
  - b. Handles all things scheduling, parent/teacher conferences
- VII. Q & A
  - a. How can parents get involved in things that are not major events?
    - i. McCabe wants to take this question to building leadership team for input
    - ii. Volunteers will need to go through background checks/guidelines
    - iii. McCabe will share upcoming volunteer opportunities in October newsletter
  - b. Membership Toolkit – a link is included in each monthly newsletter
  - c. Class Funds
    - i. Budgets for each class for grad party/class gift starts freshman year
    - ii. Senior Survival Fund – accepts donations for different expenses students incur during senior year
  - d. Career Shadowing / Development
    - i. Suggestion of parents volunteering to career shadow or meet with students
      1. Logistics of getting students of campus may be a challenge

2. There is a class called Professional and Career Development offered
  - ii. Trade-based career day last spring was attended by about 50 students in the district
  - iii. Suggestion of parents speaking about alternative or specialties within different fields
  - iv. Suggestion of recent West grads offering their career experience
  - v. Parkway Alumni Association may be a possible resource
- e. Gaming – How do other parents address gaming?
  - i. Problematic for some students
  - ii. Suggestion of setting limits of time and when
- f. Cell phone policy
  - i. Not many detentions for cell phone use have been issued; kids have responded well to the policy
  - ii. Teachers have autonomy to set up rules that work in their classroom.
  - iii. Generally, there is no reason for a student to need a cell phone in class since they all have Chromebooks.
  - iv. Parkway blocks sites that do not have educational value
- g. Mission of Parkway West – Connection, Student Achievement, Relevance
  - i. Connection – goal to have 75% of students participate in an after-school sport or activity; Activities are listed under the “Students” tab on the website
  - ii. Student Achievement – measurable by grades/test scores
  - iii. Relevance – how is what we’re doing now relevant to you now and in the future? (learning how to manage cell phone use is part of this)
- h. Academic Lab
  - i. Why? To align schedules across the high schools and give students the opportunity to get help from their actual teachers unlike study hall
  - ii. Teachers can also request students to attend their AcLab
  - iii. May do drill during AcLab, but try to limit drills during this time
  - iv. Clubs may meet once per month during AcLab
  - v. Students have to signed up for AcLab even if just studying for accountability and safety; sign-up 24 hours in advance up to start time
- i. Request for parent tours
  - i. Possibly offer parent tours of the building on an early release day
  - ii. Student aides currently give tours to new families so maybe open it up to current parents as well
- j. Artificial Intelligence (AI)
  - i. Are teachers using AI tools? How can we be sure any AI tools are accurate?
- k. Chromebook Monitoring
  - i. Chromebooks are monitored to look for key phrases and anything concerning; certain things will trigger an alert for conversation with a student
  - ii. Part of teaching students to navigate what’s appropriate and what is not
- l. Social Wellbeing – How do we monitor how students are doing social?

- i. Climate and trusted adult surveys
  - ii. Social/emotional wellbeing is difficult to assess unless a student is reaching out for help
  - iii. Sometimes it does take a parent reaching out to administrators/teachers in order for school to be aware that a student is struggling
- m. Parking
  - i. Spots will not be opened up for sophomores; there are only about 5 spots that are available
  - ii. May reevaluate for the spring semester if there are a number of early graduates

## General Meeting

### Committee Updates

- I. Red and Blue Night – event went well, no significant takeaways for next year
- II. Spirit Wear
  - a. The special homecoming sales just closed
  - b. Cold weather gear will soon be available
- III. Taste of West
  - a. 60 tickets sold so far
  - b. 21 restaurants participating as of today
  - c. 49 volunteers signed up, but more are needed
  - d. Looking for contacts at party rental companies for event rentals needed
- IV. Volunteer Reminders
  - a. Volunteers for homecoming dance needed – coat check, chaperones
  - b. Senior class has concessions for the homecoming game on October 6
  - c. Junior class has concessions for the game on October 20
- V. Staff Appreciation
  - a. Welcome gifts were provided to the staff
  - b. Next event will be providing dinner for conferences
- VI. Adopt-A-Staff
  - a. 116 responses from teachers and staff were received; 107 want to participate
  - b. There will be three formal gift-giving opportunities
- VII. Upcoming Events
  - a. Beautification Day – November 11, 2023
  - b. Adult Trivia Night – February 10, 2024
  - c. Prom – April 27, 2024

### Meeting Minutes

- Approval of May 18, 2023 meeting minutes – Kim Hoenecke moved to approve, Liza Lampi seconded

### Treasure's Report

- Accounts reconciled; Approximately \$125, in main account
- 2022/2023 taxes are almost finalized

- Keep West Best is underway; last year's total was approximately \$7,000
- Sports Passes are a bit lower than last year at this time; Approximately \$14,000
- Not many expenses yet – staff appreciation and spirtwear so far
- Class Totals
  - Seniors - \$18,017
  - Juniors - \$6,095
  - Sophomores - \$1,263
  - Freshman - \$1,956

#### Presidents' Report

- Homecoming Parade – No throwing candy on school grounds, but may be thrown on the parade route
- Taste of West – Volunteers are needed; will start marketing Taste of West to the community
- Next Principal's Coffee is scheduled for February 13, 2024

Next Meeting – October 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm