



## WHS General PTO Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2021

Attendance: 60 participants

President Caroline Sweeney called the zoom meeting to order at 12:01.

There were approximately 65 in attendance.

President Sweeney introduced the board and thanked them for all they do.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

No Hassle Fundraiser - The No Hassle Fundraiser is going on right now. Money raised this year will go to beautifying some outdoor spaces to make them more inviting for students' use. A raffle will be held with lots of prizes and everyone who donates will be eligible for the raffle.

Upcoming Dates – Homecoming is October 22, the last day to order mums is October 17 and the last day to buy pavers is October 31.

### STUDENT COUNCIL PRESENTATION ON HOMECOMING:

Travis Ali and Charles Sun, Student Council Representatives, said that they were really excited for this year's Homecoming since the students didn't get to have a real one last year. The events leading up to Homecoming start with Spirit Week, followed by a pep rally, football game and then the Homecoming Dance.

Spirit Week - Each year, Student Council decides on a theme for Homecoming, and this year the theme is Oscar/Hollywood. For Spirit Week, students are encouraged to dress like a teacher on Monday, be a twin on Tuesday, wear pajamas on Wednesday and dress as your favorite celebrity on Thursday. On Friday, it is traditional to dress in school colors according to grades: white for 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, blue for 11<sup>th</sup> and red for 12<sup>th</sup>. This year, awards will be given for students with the most creative attire.

Pep Rally – At the pep rally, which is held on Friday, there will be an entertaining segment called bubble soccer between teachers and students. Unlike most years, this year's pep rally will be held outdoors in the stadium.

Homecoming Football Game – Prior to the game, the student body votes on the Homecoming Court: King, Queen, Princes and Princesses. The winners are announced at the football game and are handed crowns and sashes.

Homecoming Dance – [Principal's note: The dance will be held on October 23 and will start at 7PM or 8PM.] The theme of the dance is Oscar/Hollywood, and decorations have been ordered. Student Council is reaching out to other organizations to get help plan the dance and Spirit Week. The dance this year will be held both inside the Chap Court and outside in the Courtyard. There will be an area for students to take photos when they enter. [Principal's note: The

homecoming court will also be recrowned.] There are plans to secure a band or DJ and they are hoping to get Amy's to serve prepackaged ice cream.

#### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

*This Year v. Last Year* - Several teachers have told Principal Ramsey that this year is awesome. They are excited and fired up to have all the kids back and to not teach them in two worlds: in person and online. There's a good energy at WHS. It's positive, and people are happy and engaged in the classrooms. Compared to last year, teachers are getting 75 more minutes with the students each week. This is due to less personal work days needed and going back to a regular passing period. Another nice thing about this year is to see some of the sophomores, as this is their first time on campus. Many kids experienced their first pep rally last Friday. Things have changed in two years, and it's been eye-opening and refreshing to see kids having a more positive outlook on school sponsored activities. Principal Ramsey saw the largest group of seniors at the season opener football game since 2002. The senior class has grown together more than other senior classes; they are a little bit tighter. Many activities have provided memorable experiences: cross country, volleyball, tennis, swimming, orchestra concert and band contest. The WHS Band made the finals at Bands of America.

*Pep Rallies* – In order to have pep rallies, the school must get approval from the district. The rallies will be eased in by stages. They'll be held outside. The next one will be October 8 and it will be the first time our seniors will be running on the field and the school song will be played. The pep rally is October 22 and will be a traditional homecoming pep rally. All the groups will be on the field with the band. The captains will also have a chance to speak about their teams.

*PSAT*: The PSAT will be administered on campus on October 13. Sophomores have already been pre-registered for the exam and the district pays for that. Juniors must individually register and pay if they would like to take it. Principal Ramsey said that this group of seniors had 33 National Merit Semifinalists and 70 Commended Scholars.

*Upcoming Dates*: The district's first early release day is on Thursday (September 30). Students will get out at 1:15 PM which coincides with ACL starting the next day. College fair, which was not held last year, will be October 20 and is voluntary this year. Half the number of reps is coming this year and it will be held in several areas: the Chap Court, courtyards and the Commons. Sophomores will go before school, juniors during first period, and seniors will go during second period. [Principal's note: Freshmen can walk through before school if they want to. Juniors and Seniors are highly encouraged to attend.] The next early release day is October 28. WHS tried to minimize activities that would take away from instructional time in order to give students and staff the first 6-7 weeks of school to settle in without distractions.

Principal Ramsey answered a couple of questions that were posted in the chat (noted above).

*The meeting was adjourned at 12:23.*