

**WESS PA EXEC Board Meeting
October 4, 2017**

=====

Board members in attendance:

Eric Shuffler, Co-President
Gretchen Skaggs, Co-President
Andreas Frisch, Treasurer
Emily Ramsay, Rec. Secretary
Ed Litton, Comm. Secretary
Yasmin Hopper, Asst. Treasurer
Jessica Gracyainy, VP
Luisa Kroll, VP
Hannah Pennington, VP

Also In attendance (for first part of meeting)

Becca Tatistcheff, Asst. Principal

=====

Upcoming Dates

Next WESS PA Mtg: 10/25/17
Next Exec Board Mtg: 11/1/17

=====

MINUTES: 10/4/17 MEETING

- Meeting commences 3:30 pm
- Sept 2017 Minutes approved (unanimous)

Treasurer's Report (A. Frisch)

- Review Budget
- Still researching "avenue of collection" for funds now that Tilt is gone. Update on Paypal: They offer a not-for-profit rate which are investigating.

Presidents' Report

- Start with Agenda Items 6 & 7 because Becca is here

PA Meeting Recap.

- After-School Permits: PA has offered to help Manhattan Youth explore permits for School practices. Permits are held by schools forever and very hard to get!

- Team Uniforms – Who pays for uniforms and whether parents need to help was discussed but Manhattan Youth indicated they are providing.
- Picture Day – We now have 2 volunteers to run Picture Day - Marianna Huang and Kimberly (Side note from Treasurer A. Frisch: did not yet receive check yet from Photography Company which will be investigated (WESS receives small commission))
- Sixth Grade Social – Calendar'ed and ready. Parent-Only event.
- Street Crossing Guards: Becca will verify their hours and locations & report back on whether PA involvement needed.

Tours of WESS/ Updates (E. Shuffler))

- Open Houses are ongoing. All going well.
- Had a great meeting with about 25-30 parent volunteers for upcoming tours. Kirsten Oppenheimer and Heather Widensky are organizing.
- Streamlining tours more this year. Setting up spreadsheet indicating which classes parents can visit

New WESS Video (E. Ramsay/ A. Frisch)

- Video is complete, and ready for viewing. Will present video to Board Members at end of meeting.
- Discussed ideal ways to use video for this year's tours (and next year's Open House).

Safety Discussion

- Getting a Safety Speaker – probably from the NYPD. Discussed having 2 different safety meetings – one for students, one for parents. Perhaps student one could be done in crew. H. Pennington will take lead in researching.

Screening of film “Angst”:

- Per Hannah, 32 participants so far; need more.
- Will send out another reminder.
- 2 mental health professionals booked for Q&A afterwards. John the Guidance counselor will be there too.

- BECCA left meeting.

President's Report (continued)

- By-laws for PA/ Mandatory Update
 - Our Board must review. According to CEC, there is mandate to change the bylaws.
 - Volunteers to help review: E. Shuffler, J. Gracyainy, H. Pennington, E. Ramsay)
- Family Giving
 - Eric/ Gretchen will try to get out letter by next week.

- Our “ask” is for \$750 per child but language strongly emphasizes that each and every contribution financial or otherwise is extremely valuable.
- Re Option of Electronic payment: Looking at Venmo and Paypal. (Paypal now works if you do it as a gift) and researching PayPal non profit rate.
- Parent Communication
 - Discussed ways to continue to improve outreach out to parents
 - New parent/student directory: Demo to be presented at next PA meeting.

My School Anywhere: Presentation By Luisa Kroll

- Highly recommends we start using this web site for a variety of functions.
- Can set up store with this site – Use for donations, spirit wear, etc etc.
- Recommends using for Family Giving. Great at tracking donations and reconciling payments
- Can also be used for events, finding volunteers, & for directory

Presented WESS Video to some board members

Items for next PA Meeting:

- JumpRope Demo by Becca,
- Directory tutorial (by L. Kroll)
- 6th grade PA spots election

Meeting Adjourned 5:00 pm

Minutes Recorded by Secretary Emily Ramsay