

Western High School

School Advisory Council

Minutes for January 27, 2026

Called to Order at 3:00 PM in the Media Center

Members Present: Alexa Aguila, Zachary Banks, Romina Castro Montes, David Hanley, Erica Hansinger, Nicole Henderson, Barry Jones, Michael Levinson, Brandon Monse, Michelle Padura, Alejandro Quinonez, Bonnie Reisler, Samantha Reisler, Landyn Spellberg, Audrey Spicer, Holly Stracquadaine, Art Waganheim, Nikki T. Watkins, Tamara Wehrell

Non-Members Present: Jessie Bastas, Jennifer Perez, Helene Kocis, Joe Bolter, Risa Steward, Roxanne Huggins, Layla Faris, Wendy Bernstein

- I. Review and accept the minutes from the December 2025 meeting.
 - A. Bonnie Reisler approved the minutes, and Holly Stracquadaine seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- II. Report on SAC budget information
 - A. Balance: \$726.00
 - B. Contingency Reserve: \$726.00
 - C. Available Balance: \$0.00
 - D. Instructional Materials: \$26,965.05
 - E. Art Waganheim questions the increase in the instructional material budget. Michael Levinson responds that this increase is due to the extra unallocated funds added to the budget.
 - F. Helene Kocis asks if SAC does not use all instructional materials funds, does the budget roll over to the next school year? Traditionally, yes, the instructional materials budget would roll over to the next school year if unused. But these days we would need to reconfirm this still holds true.
- III. News Report from the Principal
 - A. Principal Michelle Padura: Students are receiving course cards for 2026-2027 this week. Visiting Indian Ridge and Tequesta Trace to approve freshman course cards. Students are now allowed to go into Focus and put course requests in themselves.
 - B. Helene Kocis says that parents and students are being informed on how to use focus scheduling software through the newsletter. The new software leaves more time for discussion between students and the counselor.
 - C. Principal Michelle Padura: February 4th will be the 'Freshman Roar and Soar.'
 - D. WHS Cheerleading Team are now state champions and have received the most rings at Western.

- E. Helene Kocis: There are several new course offerings this year, and we had a recent curriculum fair.
 - F. Principal Michelle Padura: Law studies class is being introduced.
 - G. Inclusivity is central to school and student success. Expanding course and club offerings at Western. Lunch activities at least every other week. School culture is very important for student well-being, and we want to focus on maintaining it.
- IV. Sesir Data (same as previous meeting)
- A. Western High August Report - 8 Infractions
 - 1. Disruption on Campus (Major Disorderly Conduct) - 0
 - 2. Drug Possession and/or Uses (Excluding Alcohol) - 0
 - 3. Physical Attack - 0
 - 4. Tobacco Possession and/or Use - 8
 - B. Western High September Report - 17 Infractions
 - 1. Disruption on Campus (Major Disorderly Conduct) - 1
 - 2. Drug Possession and/or Uses (Excluding Alcohol) - 6
 - 3. Physical Attack - 1
 - 4. Tobacco Possession and/or Use - 9
- V. Results of A+ Recognition Reward Election
- A. The election for the A+ Recognition Rewards based on the approved SAC ballot took place, with the teachers and staff of Western High.
 - B. Proposal 1 received 130 votes. Proposal 2 received 11 votes. Proposal 3 received 41 votes. 182 votes cast in total.
 - C. Proposal 1 will be initiated.
- VI. Evaluation Data for Continuation PSD Waiver for 2026-2027 and Approve Ballot
- A. The state law allows for 8 PSDs; District mandates now the maximum is 4.
 - B. SAC will approve a ballot for the Western High School to determine the number of PSD days for the next school year.
 - C. Options of 1 to 4 PSD days. SAC will vote on the number of PSD days to include on the faculty ballot.
 - D. Art Waganheim asks how teachers feel about the number of PSD days.
 - E. Michael Levinson explains that PSD days are crucial for teacher learning and are especially significant for new teachers. Michael Levinson presents data on how much time is dedicated to professional learning on PSD days for teachers.
 - F. Michael Levinson shares current Western graduation rates, ELA scores show a 9-point increase for freshmen and a 13-point increase for sophomores. Math progress is behind for Western.
 - G. Bonnie Reisler asks about attendance rates on PSD days. Student attendance rates are frequently lower on PSD days.
 - H. A ballot with the options of 4 PSD days or 3 PSD days is proposed.
 - I. Art Waganheim motions for the ballot's approval. Tamara Wehrell seconds. The ballot carries unanimously.
- VII. Funding Requests passed by the SAC Budget Committee
- A. No funding requests.
- VIII. School Improvement Plan Review - SPBP (Behavior Plan)

- A. Erica Hansinger introduces the SPBP with the initiative to ensure students are held accountable, and opportunities are provided for the students to have positive behaviors with rewards such as pep rallies and events.
 - B. Currently, Western uses reinforcements with strict tardy passes to reduce tardiness and limit interruptions during instructional periods.
 - C. Cat cash is given to students to reward positive behavior in the classroom, and can be exchanged for snacks.
 - D. If anyone has suggestions for SPBP, they are encouraged to propose them.
- IX. New business before the SAC
- A. Art Waganheim went to the first Parent University meeting, where advanced learning, dual-enrollment, AP, and early admission were discussed. Hopes for greater attendance next year.
 - B. Principal Michelle Padura hopes to find more ways to encourage parents to participate in Parent University and is open to suggestions.
 - C. David Hanley asks if there is a parent orientation presentation at Freshman Roar and Soar. Principal Michelle Padura answers that yes, there is a parent orientation at Freshman Roar and Soar.
 - D. Nikki T. Watkins thought it was helpful to have the stands outside with journals and T-shirts for the kids.
 - E. Early admission and dual enrollment kids will receive an ID at the beginning of the year.
 - F. Nikki T. Watkins suggests having a speaker at the end of the SAF meetings addressing parents to make meetings easier to hold, and having a possible virtual component for parents to attend. David Hanley supports this idea and adds that he noticed more parent engagement and higher attendance when the freshman invasion parent orientation was held online.
- X. Adjournment – Next Meeting: 2/24/2026
- A. Brandon Monse moved to adjourn, and Art Waganheim seconded. Carried unanimously.