

Western High School

School Advisory Council

Minutes for February 24, 2026

Called to Order at 3:01 PM in the Media Center

Members Present: Alexa Aguila, Syed Arhaam, Zachary Banks, David Hanley, Erica Hansinger, Nicole Henderson, Barry Jones, Helen Lacayo, Michael Levinson, Michelle Padura, Alejandro Quinonez, Bonnie Reisler, Samantha Reisler, Christopher Ryan, Landyn Spellberg, Audrey Spicer, Holly Stracquadaine, Nikki T. Watkins, Taylor Watkins, Tamara Wehrell

Non-Members Present: B. Vezina, M. Brent, A. Dady, Joe Bolter, Ricardo Marino, Risa Steward

- I. Review and accept the minutes from the January 2026 meeting.
 - A. Landyn Spellberg approved the minutes, and Bonnie Reisler 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. Michael Levinson encourages use of instructional materials.
 - F. Michelle Padura says that in the board meeting it was said that the instructional materials balance will likely not roll over.
 - G. Michelle Padura says that the district is looking to drop 1,000 jobs, and introduce a new funding model for high schools. All AICE and AP dollars are going to be centralized, and requests must be submitted by the schools. Western needs to spend everything in our instructional materials budget this year, as it will not roll over.
 - H. Looking to receiving proposals from teachers.
 - I. Some money may come back, as leftovers from payments for ELOs.
 - J. Landyn Spellberg asks if teachers know this, and if there is a concrete plan on how to spend instructional material money.
 - K. Michelle Padura says teachers likely do not know yet, as in previous years, the money rolled over. Proposals need to be collected from teachers first.
- III. News Report from the Principal
 - A. Michelle Padura says Western received its graduation and acceleration rates, both have seen significant increases. These are 2 factors of the 10 school grade assessment points. Working to ensure the graduation and acceleration rates continue to increase for 2026.

- B. Upcoming SAT Day in March, for all juniors to take the SAT with the school free of cost. If the juniors do well on this assessment it can cover requirements in English for graduation.
 - C. Some senior students are currently involved in seminars and acceleration.
 - D. 9th and 10th graders review sessions for the upcoming state assessments
- 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
 - C. The months that followed September to the last month all showed 0 for every category in each month.
 - D. The SESIR data is always available by aiming your cellphone camera at the QR code on the SAC Agenda.
- V. Results of Continuation PSD Waiver for 2026-2027 Election
- A. Ballot went before faculty during an election on February 5, 2026.
 - B. Of the 146 eligible voters, 117 actually voted, 100 voted in favor of PSD days for 2026-2027, and 17 voted against PSD days for 2026-2027
 - C. PSD days will continue for the 2026-2027 school year since it met the threshold of 66.67% in favor. The faculty overwhelmingly (98%) voted for the 4-day option.
- VI. Improvements in 2025 Graduation Rate and Acceleration Rate
- A. Graduation Rate of 98% with a 2% increase, and acceleration rate of 72% with a 6% increase.
- VII. Funding Requests passed by the SAC Budget Committee
- A. No funding requests.
- VIII. School Improvement Plan Review - School Counseling Plan
- A. School Counseling plan aligns with SIP. SIP can be viewed through QR code on the agenda.
 - B. Tells us how faculty are serving children at the school, and how important info is getting out. Includes topics such as tardiness interventions, and repercussions.
 - C. All info put in by guidance counselors and social workers can be viewed on Focus.
 - D. Examples of symbols on focus that indicate a student is a foster child to their counselors.
 - E. Differentiate between guidance and social work. Guidance handles academic concerns, and social workers handle emotional/therapeutic concerns.
 - F. Guidance is currently working on course selections for the 2026-2027 school year.

- G. David Hanley asks if online course selection through Focus is going well. Michelle Padura responds that they did not get the participation expected. Landon Spellberg says the district is looking for a way to simplify the system. Holly Stracquadaine expressed concerns that there is a lack of guidance during online input.
 - H. Audrey Spicer suggests a video tutorial on how to pick classes on Focus.
 - I. Landon Spellberg requests video or instructions from the district and then confirmed that they were working on it.
- IX. New business before the SAC
- A. David Hanley asks what steps are planned to receive teacher recommendations regarding spending of the instructional materials budget.
 - B. Michael Levinson suggests an application for recommendation to go to teachers via email.
 - C. Audrey Spicer suggests a small group from PLC for a more targeted response.
 - D. Michael Levinson confirms requests will go out to the teachers for recommendations regarding spending of the instructional materials budget.
 - E. FLVS has been discouraged. Western is charged for every student that takes an FLVS course. Suggesting Broward Virtual instead as it is free. Bonnie Reisler expresses concerns that FLVS offers more than Broward Virtual.
 - F. David Hanley suggests adding FLVS classes that are not currently available on Broward Virtual as in-person classes at Western.
 - G. Michelle Padura says that allowing some students to take more AP and AICE courses and not limiting them, may encourage students to take more classes in-person.
 - H. The board approved last year a 5 million dollar investment with a 10 million yield in Broward Virtual, 41 teacher slots currently open for Broward Virtual. Broward Virtual is adding Drivers Ed, Spanish, and HOPE classes; and around 15,000 course slots.
- X. Adjournment – Next Meeting: 3/31/2026
- A. Bonnie Reisler moved to adjourn, and Holly Stracquadaine seconded. Carried unanimously.