

Western High School

School Advisory Council

Minutes for August 27, 2025, Meeting

Called to Order at 3:01 pm in Media Center

Members Present: Zachary Banks, Peta-Gaye Bisset, Helen Lacayo, Michael Levinson, Brandon Monse, Bonie Reisler, Samantha Resiler, Christopher Ryan, Landyn Spellberg, Audrey Spicer, Holly Stracquadaine, Art Waganheim, T. Nikki Watkins, Tamara Wehrell

Non-Members Present: Risa Steward, Hetzai Gamboa, Alejandro Quinonez, Nicole Henderson, Sebastian Agvero, Evan Apei, Diveris Ramos, Joe Bolter, Danielle George, Helene Kocis, Barry Jones, Erica Hansinger, Roxanne Huggins, Castro Yishter Roileo, Alexa Aguila, Harley Steward, Jennifer Smallman

- I. May 27, 2025, minutes were reviewed and discussed.
 - a. Art Waganheim made a motion to approve the minutes, Bonnie Reisler seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- II. Report on the latest SAC Budget Information
 - Balance: \$16,937.25
 - Contingency Reserve: \$1,000.00
 - Available Balance: \$15,937.25

- III. News Report from the Principal
 - a. Report was provided by Ms. Helene Kocis, Intern Principal, due to Principal Michelle Padura's absence.
 - b. Open House was held last night, Tuesday, August 26.
 - c. Revised parking and drop off protocol have been successfully implemented for this school year.
 - d. This week kicked off the tardy policy. A drastic reduction in tardies has occurred due to this initiative.
 - e. All staff are now trained in wearing a Centegix crisis alert badge. The badge can trigger localized-immediate help and/or put the school onto lockdown in the event of an active assailant.
 - f. The first Professional Study Day will be next Thursday.

- g. Picture day will be on Thursday and Friday, August 27/28 during social studies classes.
- h. The September 11th ceremony will be held for the 24th year.
- i. On September 20, homecoming will be held.
- j. A question was posed regarding the parent drop off and student parking lot and a need to fill potholes in that lot. Ms. Kocis will follow-up to see if/when those will be addressed.
- k. A question was posed regarding the tardy policy, with a difference between the issuance of late passes and FOCUS SIS. Ms. Kocis addressed that the school has an internal process for tardy policy, with parent e-mails being triggered at three tardies. Students will receive five warnings before consequences are issued. Ms. Kocis will address situations where teachers are closing doors on students and education to students on reducing bottlenecks in the hallways. She also shared that no classrooms are in the portables to reduce that distance. A student shared an opinion regarding the revised tardy policy and a concern with the feasibility of moving between classes from the main buildings to the portables. Ms. Kocis shared that with the requirement for 92 minutes in each class, there is a need for 6 minute passing periods and a lack of ability to extend that passing period.
- l. A question was posed regarding the bathroom policy and teacher implementation. The 10/10 rule was explained that students should not be leaving class during the first or last 10 minutes to ensure the hallways are cleared. Teachers have been instructed on the different types of passes.
- m. A question was posed regarding open house and a process improvement to have a map included on a QR code for next school year. Mr. Bolter addressed a security concern for sharing maps.

IV. SIP Review

- a. The School Improvement Plan (SIP) is currently under construction and is being put together by school staff. Once it is completed, it will be available for public and school community view.

V. 2025-2026 SAC Membership Vote:

- a. The 2025-2026 Slate of Nominated members are as follows:
 - i. Erica Hansinger, Teacher
 - ii. Barry Jones, Teacher
 - iii. Nicole Henderson, Student (12)
 - iv. Benjamin Cramer, Student (9)

- v. Alexa Aguila, Student (9)
 - vi. Hetzai Gamboa, Student (10)
 - vii. Alejandro Quinonez, non-instructional
 - viii. Romina Castro Montes, ESOL Parent
 - b. Ms. Spicer raised that she has a senior student interested and noted her concern that it was not shared with all students to apply for nomination. She questioned if it was made available to the entire school population for nomination and it was stated by the Chair it was not. The Chair noted that this year is a non-election year. Ms. Kocis shared that due to the fact that there was no advertisement to students, it may be best to postpone the vote.
 - c. A motion was made by Landyn Spellberg to “Approve the nomination of Erica Hansinger (teacher), Barry Jones (teacher), Alejandro Quinonez (non-instructional), and Romina Castro Montes (ESOL parent); and have elections for 3 freshman, 2 sophomores, 1 junior, and 2 senior positions at the next meeting; and invite all students in school publications to attend next month’s meeting for nomination, acceptance, and election.” The motion was seconded by Audrey Spicer. The motion passed unanimously.
 - d. The election of officers will be tabled to the next meeting until all vacancies are filled.
- VI. Funding Requests passed by the SAC Budget Committee
- a. No funding requests for this meeting.
- VII. School Improvement Plan will be fully updated at conclusion of meeting.
- VIII. New business before the SAC
- a. A question was asked regarding the math platform. Ms. Kocis will follow-up regarding the math platform.
 - b. A student shared an outbreak of cage fungus near the 1100 building in the mulch. Administration will address.
 - c. A parent asked about the Air Quality issue, and it is being addressed.
 - d. The school was congratulated by SAC members for its “A” grade.
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 PM via motion by Art Waganheim and Bonnie Reisler.