

Western High School

School Advisory Council
Minutes for September 30, 2025

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

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

Non-Members Present: Evan Apel, Jeremiah Estrada, Sebastian Asuero, Shahiah Laurent, Janae Joseph, Hunter van der Steeg, Merim Pilmoar, Darasan Bispham, Mariah Lewis, Bralynn Sylvester, Jaysen Birch, Dylan Bustos, Joel Bullock, Jayden Jean-Baptiste, NGO Barilsa, Akimron Willess, Amber Ryan, Chris Ryan, B. Vezina, A. Dady, Keilani Canady, Skye Butler-Rock, Sa'di Moise, Ashley Keaton, Roxanne Huggins, Helene Kosis, Ricardo Marino, Brian Lynn, Valentina Cevanos, JRH, Casto Ysille Rouiuo, Joseph Mishkin

Order of Business on Agenda

- I. Reviewed and discussed the August 27, 2025, minutes.
 - A. Art Waganheim approved the minutes, Bonnie Reisler seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
 - B. Welcomed new student members elected by the student body.
- II. Report on SAC budget information
 - A. Balance: \$15,501
 - B. Contingency Reserve: 1,000
 - C. Available Balance: \$14,501
- III. News Report from Principal
 - A. Principal Padura: We had homecoming last week. This was her first Western homecoming as principal. Welcome to feedback during or after the meeting.
 - B. Landon, a district-wide quarterly student feedback survey with an interactive AI chatbot after standard questions.
 - C. Principal ambassador committee: meets once a month; the club president is Lily Reed. The club meets with the principal to discuss school policy and opportunities.
 - D. Wrapped UP PM1 testing. Analysing data to improve test results for PM 2 and PM 3.
 - E. PSAT on October 16th, and for juniors, Friday is the deadline to pay for the PSAT.
 - F. Art Waganheim: Daughter counted as an unexcused absence in previous periods when she came in late, even though he signed her in as not feeling well. Padura

said this should be addressed to the office. Eight reasons an absence can be excused, and not feeling well is one of them.

- G. Study sessions for PSAT. Practice through English teachers. Khan Academy and other sources are available to students. Clever Gale has practice opportunities for the PSAT. Juniors and Seniors/ makeups on the 22nd. Cost of PSAT is currently on e-store.

IV. Adoption of 2025-2026 SAC By-Laws

- A. Yearly review of bylaws.
- B. Sheet given to member with template of by-laws.
- C. Members terms continue to be 2 years.
- D. The installation of the new officers continues to take place at the second meeting.
- E. Insertion: Date of adoption 9/30/2025, offices of secretary and co-chairs
- F. Art Waganheim approved, Bonnie Reisler seconded.

V. 2025-2026 SAC Membership Update: Students Voted in by Students - Election of Officers

- A. The election of new student members was double-verified by SAC Chair and Administration.
- B. This year was a non-election year; however, some student seats were vacated, requiring an election to fill them. The election was done by a form sent to the whole student body, and the results were double-verified. An announcement was also sent to the whole student body beforehand to make them aware of this opportunity.
- C. Election of Officers: Secretary voting took place; no other members expressed interest in the position; the Secretary's office was confirmed to Nicole Henderson.
- D. Recruiting parent membership for SAC was discussed. Next year is a general election for parent seats; plan to advertise in the School Newsletter, and a possible recruitment committee. Announcement was done at the 9th-grade orientation last year, plan to do this next year as well.
- E. Parent Potential Parent Sessions: optional meetings; Pedura asked if parents are interested in helping organize these Parent Universities, where topics such as College, Student Opportunities, and issues such as vaping will be discussed.
- F. Co-chairs: Current Co-Chairs are Michael Levinson and Tamara Wehrell. Erica Hansinger expressed interest in the position and gave an election speech: 13 years teaching here, emphasis on recognition, wants to make a difference through SAC to improve the school environment, honing student skills, here for teachers, parents, and students. Michael Levinson gave an election speech: been a part of SAC since 2015, a state-mandated organization, discussing ways to improve the school, keep SAC focused, using funding resources, and district reporting. Tamara Wehrell gave a speech resigning her seat as Co-Chair: 20 years at the school, been a part of SAC since before Levinson, ready to give up position, glad someone else is stepping up, still wants to participate, but will resign as Co-Chair. No voting necessary due to Tamara Wehrell stepping down. Landyn Spellberg approved, David Hanely seconded.

- VI. Funding Requests passed by the SAC Budget Committee
 - A. None.
- VII. Discussion of Florida Sunshine Laws (F.S.S. 286) - Brief Quiz
 - A. Reviewed Florida Sunshine Laws for new SAC members. The law requires meetings to be open to the public. Reasonable notice and time of meeting must be given. Minutes must be taken at every meeting and accurately reflect what took place. Every member of SAC is subject to these laws.
 - B. Public Records: all documents are uploaded on the School Improvement Plan. Notes taken by members in consideration of a vote can also be considered a document under the Florida Sunshine Laws.
 - C. Discussion about voting issues must never take place between members outside of public SAC meetings. This only applies to the voting members.
 - D. All members were given copies of information from Florida on Sunshine Laws, and a short quiz with answers given on the back.
 - E. David Hanely asked if SAC voting members are permitted to be in the Principal Council Club. Padura said she would be careful not to bring up voting issues and confirmed that school-wide issues are always open for discussion with her.
- VIII. New business before SAC
 - A. Possible Needs Assessment for Members to bring new business.
 - B. Horticulture: what will be done with the structure, repairs needed, and volunteer possibilities. Engineering teachers volunteered to help.
 - C. Audrey Spicer: recognizes this is the largest SAC meeting she has seen. She is happy to see more non-members represent more of the school population.
- IX. Adjournment — Next Mtg: 10/28/25
 - A. Art Waganheim approved, Bonnie Reisler seconded. The motion carried unanimously.