

Parent Community Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2011

Present:

Ginnie Baskin	Jennifer Gray	Mira Moss
Cheryl Freeman	Nija Meyer	Ginny Vaughn
Lisa Mancuso	Delee Sutherland	Tammi Duncan
Kathy Rohrer	Sheila Cornelius	Lisa Jackson
Michelle Bowden	Rachel Hart	Amy Olson
Valerie Gallagher	Christi Meyers	Sharon Williams
Amy Mattingly	Teri Taylor	Suzy Ellis
Sheila Schifilliti	Meenaxi Dave	Cathy Lefar
Barbara Coats	Sherry Hart	Robbie Roberts
Colleen Gould	Ann Miller	Ron McCollum
Pattie Mayer	Nina Valastro	Chris Freer
Sabrina Snowden	Haynes Dooley	Lin Pahl
Karen Corbin	Vicki Hueber	Patty McIver

Call to order and introductions:

- Suzy Ellis, PC President, called to order

Comments:

Mr. McCollum, Headmaster and Vice President

- School has been amazingly quiet.
- Woodward Academy has 15 National Merit Students, 2nd greatest total in our history which was 17, which was 2nd in the state of Ga., second to Westminster who had 28.
- Mr. McCollum will be visiting all new teachers as well as all US teachers.

Dr. Chris Freer, Vice President and Dean for Student Life

- Mentoring program has really helped new kids to become acclimated to new school. We have 333 new families so this has really helped in the transitioning.
- WA Live is doing a wonderful job! Cameras everywhere with students helping in broadcast booth!
- Community Service projects just getting started, a number of new things added along with those discussed last meeting like the Atlanta Food Bank. A lot more hands on service. We are working with Mt. Olivet with tutoring, many other school have shown an interest too. John Merrill Upper School History teacher is heading up most of this.
- Now live and ready to go with Texting from the Academy to Parents phones in Emergency Purposes- inclement weather, etc.
- Remote schooling plan- if the school was shut down teachers could go remote on line if similar things like last year occurred and give homework, etc. to kids (age and school appropriate)
- Athletics' have started well, Stone Mountain is next game, and Cheerleaders won first Competition this weekend! Our kids have done great many of our grads have done well on the next level volleyball, football, softball and even the Olympic trials! (Balancing the abilities to excel in sports and academics is what makes this exceptional!)
- Crane consulting in hibernation at this point, they have interviewed and canvassed many areas and now they are held up working on and positioning themselves for ways to help with our marketing and branding.

Approval of Minutes:

- Minutes Moved by Haynes Dooley then properly seconded by Sabrina Snowden

Treasures Report:

- Barbara Coats – treasurers see her after meeting

New Business:

Mentor Program – Lisa Mancuso

- Mentor program had 23 events 8 on campus; support was huge at each event. Upper school volunteers were very excited about being a part.

Consignment - Teri Taylor

- No check at this point, getting ready for pictures

Parent Programming- Mira Moss

- Mira had been hospitalized and she thanked everyone for all that they did while she was out.
- “Race to Nowhere” went well over 150 parents, 65 at North Campus very interactive.
- Desiree Scales' Event - Social Media
- Internet safety week coming up, Chris Silvers will speak at Woodward North
- Neal White will be coming Oct 12th for all of WA. He will discuss his Memoirs, true meaning of monetary and values, breakfast event so there will be a cost, at the dining hall
- 3 book clubs launched, WA North, and 2 on Main Campus
- PP webpage is up to date with what is going on
- Suggestions on communications are welcomed
- Question: Can some of the info shared at meetings be put on WA Live? Rights issues

Super Goober Day (Oct 7th) - Sharon Williams

- We've had to be careful with our budget and expenses this year, as our orders (income) have been lower with enrolment numbers at Primary School and Woodward North slightly less than prior years. We have collected \$48,459.00, broken down into the following categories:
- Sponsorships-\$4,900
- North Orders- \$10,588
- Primary- \$19,216
- Lower-\$13,335
- Numbers are down a little about we are at about \$50,000, a difference of about \$3,000 from previous year.
- 2 new exciting rides being proposed today to Mr. McCollum a large hard slide and a money drop, going to have meeting for approval today
- Photo ops global scenes first this year
- Willy's, Simons and Chick Fil A are our vendors
- Seed arts and crafts will be done
- We need volunteers so please sign up as the list is passed

Woodward North - Nija Meyer

- *Since our last board meeting, WN had 2 Parent Orientation nights, one for PK-3rd Grade, and another for 4th-6th Grade. We took advantage of a captive audience to communicate the vision and objectives of our Parent Community. We ended both evenings with Parent Socials at a nearby restaurant, attended by 100 parents.*
- *We received 100% volunteer coverage for all of our classroom and grade-wide parties throughout the year.*
- *Our Google Docs Training for Room Parents and Committee Chairs went well, with our Mac lab at full capacity. Our Parent Tech Talk committee will be scheduling additional training sessions as needed, and also "general interest" sessions on topics of interest to our parents.*
- *Parent Programming's "Race to Nowhere" made a big impact on WN, with parents continuing to discuss the implications. There is interest in "Two Million Minutes," the documentary that presents a different*

perspective. We are currently working on promoting our upcoming October 5th session on Internet Safety, and the Academy-wide session on "The Sanctuary of Outcasts."

- We have been promoting Super Goober Day heavily and are averaging at 70% participation, higher in the younger years, which is a wonderful turnout given the geographical distance from WN. Our 2 carrots (personal parking spot in front of the school and the 4 free front row sets to the Hawks game) generated a lot of enthusiasm :-)
- Our WN Tailgate Party on the Middle School Campus is this Friday, September 23rd. Over 150 are planning to come, our highest attendance ever! We have really been stressing greater involvement with Main Campus, and if you have an opportunity to stop by and say hi to the WN families at the game, it will help them feel all the more welcome.
- Next Wednesday, we have our first Parent Community meeting of the year and are excited to have Dr. Gulley as our keynote speaker. Our next Parent Community meeting will be on November 2nd, with a panel of former WN students who will share their stories about the transition to middle school - everything from the bus experience to a day in the life.
- Our Book Fair planning is well underway - more on that at the next board meeting!
- 210 Parents coming to game this weekend come by and see if possible

Primary School Report- Amy Mattingly

- We held our room parent meeting on August 31st. It was very well attended and the lines of communication seem to be in place. We have GLC's this year at the Primary School, and this extra level of communication is working well.
- We held our Parent Orientation Nights on August 31st and September 1st. Both nights went very smoothly.
 - Parent Community provided light refreshments for a social hour on both nights.
 - The Advancement office was in attendance to talk about the GOAL program and the Annual Fund.
 - Parents met in their child's classroom afterwards to discuss curriculum and classroom procedures.
- Our fall grade-level lunches were held on September 7th and 8th at the Feed Store. We had excellent attendance at both events.
- The Primary School Tailgate was a huge success and a lot of fun. We had over 300 people attend the tailgate on the night of September 9th. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal and music and then paraded to the football game.
- Our wonderful decorations committee has the Primary School decked out and ready for fall.
- Upcoming events include:
 - Our fall Parent Meeting is this Thursday, September 22nd, in the PS Library. The PS administration will be giving a presentation on how to identify your child's learning style. The PS computer specialist will also be going over some helpful information regarding the WA website and edline.
 - Our second Teacher Appreciation event will be Tuesday, September 27th.
 - PS Book Fair begins October 25th.
 - Please bring it.com for food sign up
- On a sad note, the PS Vice Chair, Jennifer Gray, has notified us that, due to family reasons, she will not be able to fulfill the role of PS Chair next year. Suzy Ellis and I have been working with Missy Duncan-Smith to find a good candidate to replace Jennifer. Jennifer will definitely be missed.

Lower School - Tammy Duncan

- New Parent Coffee on August 23rd at Kathy Roher's House in College park
- Room Parent Meeting on August 30th... we have 1-2 Rom Parents for each class
- Sept 2nd we had our Lower School Tailgate with 425 tailgaters for the game! Lots of people helped out, we had BBQ, DJ Cotton Candy and Varsity Cheerleaders, and Our Mascot came too. We sold Spirit Items it was a huge success!
- 6th graders had their Camp Experience at Tumbling Waters Sept 14th-16th
- We are having our 1st Luncheon for teachers on Wednesday, Sept 21st; it is a Picnic Theme, Lots of Parents to help out with this event.
- We are currently offering a Cotillion for our 5th and 6th graders. This will be held next month(Oct) we are having registration/sign-ups now
- Coming Up:
 - Super Goober Day!!
 - Book Fair and Book Fair Breakfast
 - Halloween parties will be next

Middle School-Lisa Jackson

- Teacher chair meeting on 25th of Aug, and two coffees one with Mr. McCollum was not attended as well the other was.
- Did everyone do the Middle School focus group with Crane?
- Big tailgate on Oct 14th

Upper School - DeLee Sutherland

- Parent counselor meetings completed all 4. Parent day was a huge success!
- College Fair was great. We had 260 colleges represented.
- Blood drive coming up, teacher luncheon and pizza party for homecoming.
- The renewal for Chapel area did not work out. The theatre and arts area will get the refrigerator and the sink will possibly go to Consignment. Box in garage that says Chapel Kitchen Utensils that has things that we may need for usage.

Parent Social - Sonja Russ

- The Theme has changed “Are You Ready for Some Fun?” Not all football related even though it has a relaxed atmosphere...denim to diamonds type event!

Concessions-Karen Corbin

- The stand has been very busy. We have a game this Friday.
- The JV team will have their second home game this Thursday and Saturday will be the first home game for the 7th grade.
- We appreciate all our volunteers and we have had plenty of help.

President's Report - Suzy Ellis

- Jennifer's position will have to be filled and voted on electronically!
- Communication –Haynes sent last email blast. Suzy needs a copy of each as you are sending, updating web site is very important, keep concise and maintain, and send to Lin.
- Booking meeting/events... some administrative assistants have been having some problem but keep on them and be patient! Tammy Duncan noted that on meeting event booking form, that says please return form to Lin, it is not correct. Lin said it will be changed as it is an old form and should not have been used.
- Suzy took a look at Parent Community Garage looks good, super goober items will be stored there so be careful when taking things out, they may be for Super Goober. Do Not Touch! Call Lin when a delivery is coming! 40 or 50 red Aprons ordered that say Parent Community Google.
- Google Doc Workshop in November, to be announced
- Meeting in January often cancelled due to weather issues; therefore, asked that the By-laws be changed to read that we nominate our nominating committee members for the next year before this meeting so that we won't have a backup in the spring. Suzy propose that we change by laws to read from being “at” January meeting to “on or before”. Hope we can vote on the committee so they can be in place for the beginning of the year. This has to be on the table for 30 days.

Meeting adjourned by Suzy Ellis, Parent Community President

Submitted by Chery Freeman, Parent Community Board Secretary