

Westgate PSO General Meeting

September 27, 2023

Meeting called to order 6:32 pm - In attendance: 29 in-person, 9 Zoom Attendees



**WESTGATE
COUGARS**

Attendees:

- **In-Person**

- Kristin Grecco, PSO Co-Chair
- Ellen Sontra, PSO Co-Chair
- Kalina Shouse, PSO Treasurer
- Krysta Johnson, PSO Secretary
- Stephen Hearn, Westgate Principal
- Dessie Petrova, Teacher
- Michele Hamilton, Office Manager
- Maura Caley
- Leah Winters
- Whitney Smith
- Dawn McLellan
- Vanessa Forthergill
- Siri Johnson
- Tracy Tarbala
- Kaitlyn Giboney
- Kara Gillanders
- Megan Wolfe
- Kevin Fitzgerald
- Anna Kruglova
- Eddy Lindenstone
- Jen Machuga
- Sarah Lemmon
- Melanie Sharma
- Katie Ford
- Lisa Alden
- Katie McGee
- Leah Winters
- Tom Parks
- Lisa Meeker

- **9 Zoom Attendees**

Agenda:

1. Introductions (Kristin)
2. Approve prior meeting's minutes (Krysta)
3. Principal's message (Mr. Hearn)
4. Budget Review/Approval (Kalina)
5. Open Positions on the PSO Board/Positions to Shadow (Ellen)

6. Nominations/Voting (Ellen)
7. Fun Run (Oct 12th)
8. Spirit Wear Sales (Sept 25-October 14)
9. Fall Festival (October 27 6-8 pm)
10. Yearbook
11. Westgate Year at a Glance
12. Questions? (Open to all)

Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm

- Introductions (Kristin)
- Approve minutes from last meeting (Krysta)
 - Prior meeting minutes approved unanimously
- Principal's message (Mr. Hearn)
 - Mr. Hearn reviewed the WestgateSchool Improvement Plan (SIP)
 - 3 year plan approved by Edmonds School District Board– We are in the third year of this plan
 - Each plan must focus on the 3 e's of Edmonds: equity, engagement, (instructional) excellence
 - There is a special focus on multilingual learners this year
 - The Westgate Leadership Team meets on a monthly basis to review progress
 - Each school sets Literacy/Math/Social-Emotional Learning Goals and many of the goals are trying to rectify the impact of COVID on where kids are on standardized testing
 - A copy of the Westgate SIP can be found [here](#).
 - If you have any questions or ideas, please contact Mr. Hearn.
- Budget Review/Approval (Kalina)
 - The PSO board met prior to this General Meeting to put together a proposed 2023-2024 budget.
 - School supplies have doubled since the PSO started providing them 3 years ago
 - This year we are spending \$20/student for a total of just over \$10,000.
 - We currently have enough money in our bank account to cover all line items in the 2023-24 budget. We are fundraising a year ahead for the 2024-2025 school year.
 - Proposed budget is \$53,000 (assuming grants are used by each teacher and every class has a field trip.
 - For this year, our Fun Run goal at \$35,000, but we've included it as a line item at \$25,000
 - Motion to approve 2023-2024 budget - unanimously approved.
- Open Positions on the PSO Board/Positions to Shadow
 - Descriptions for open roles for 2023-2024 (Fundraising/Enrichment) went home this week with kids and were posted to the Facebook group. Descriptions were read aloud.
 - All roles have 10 hours of meetings (between board meetings and general meetings) + any role specific committee meetings (fundraising/enrichment)
 - Eddy Lindenstein is interested in the fundraising position.

- Sarah Lemmon is interested in the enrichment position
- Positions to be shadowed for 2023-24 school year
 - Treasurer
 - Maura Caley is interested and will shadow this year.
 - Chair
 - Siri Johnson is interested and will shadow this year.
- Nominations/Voting
 - Motion to elect Eddy Lindenstien as Fundraising Chair - motion unanimously approved
 - Motion to elect Sarah Lemmon as Enrichment Chair - motion unanimously approved.
- Fun Run (Oct 12th)
 - The Fun Run work already been kickstarted and paperwork went home with kids this week
 - We have switched to a new platform and there is an option to tip which does not go to Westgate (which allows them to offer the platform for free).
 - We are looking for 5-6 prizes which go to top to fundraisers and the rest are raffled to any student that participates in the Fun Run (but they do not need to raise money)
 - A request for day-of volunteers to sign up via Sign Up Genius will go out on Facebook and ParentSquare via the weekly newsletter
 - The event is during the school day and parent volunteers are needed to support the event
 - First group starts at about 1 PM
 - What happens if the weather is bad?
 - We have a backup date already planned (following Thursday)
 - A local orthodontist has given money for a shirt for every child that will be given to each child the day of the event
 - We've already raised \$2,000!
- Spirit Wear Sales (Sept 25-October 14)
 - We did this last year but it was not a fundraiser last year
 - This year, spirit wear sales will be a fundraiser this year with one in the fall and one in the spring
 - Sales launched on Monday and will go through October 14
 - Funds will go to the new playground equipment (at some point in the future)
- Fall Festival (October 27 6-8 pm)
 - Sign up sheets for committee members were circulated at this meeting and we will circulate sign up sheets at the next couple of general meetings for this and for Science Night
 - The first committee meeting will likely take place next week around 7 PM at Brigid's
 - Sign up genius will go out prior to the event for people who want to volunteer day-of only.
- Yearbook
 - Yearbook will fall under enrichment this year, but can be delegated to someone to coordinate with Dorian to handle the sales, design the yearbook and collecting photos.
 - Michelle will collect photos from teachers at the end of each month to share with the person designing the yearbook.

- Dawn McLellan is interested in spearheading.
- Westgate Year at a Glance
 - All events will be on the Westgate calendar
 - Reminders and updates will be sent as we get closer to the event
 - Events:
 - Fun Run- October 12th (weather permitting)
 - Spirit Wear Sales (September 25th-October 14th)
 - Fall Festival- October 27th 6pm-8pm
 - Wreath/Greenery Sales- November
 - Goodwill Truck- January 21st
 - Tap Roots Performance/Assembly January 24th
 - Science Night- February
 - Spirit Wear Spring Sale- March
 - Auction with Art Walk- April
 - Science Assembly- April
 - Field Day- June
- Questions? (Open to all)
 - Update on crosswalk at 96th and 224th
 - There is currently an initiative to reimagine streets in Edmonds and decorative artwork will be added to this intersection
 - When the art is unveiled, the committee would like to close the intersection and have a community event for Westgate
 - Flashing lights were installed to increase safety for walkers
 - Will there be classroom parents this year?
 - It was put out to the teachers via a survey and no teachers have requested a room parent.
 - We plan to streamline PSO communications through the school/teachers on ParentSquare.

Meeting called to a close at 7:50 PM