

**Wellesley High School
PTSO General Meeting - Draft
Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2020**

Executive Board Attendees: Stacy Braatz, Connie Burton, Beth Cook, Andra Jensen, Mason Smith, Kelty White and Jamie Chisum.

Welcome - Connie Burton

It was noted that more than 10 non-executive board members were in attendance at the meeting.

Course Selection

Thom Carter - Art

Thom gave a brief overview of the art department offerings. Art courses are all electives and occur 3x a cycle. An introductory course must be taken first.

Elisa Morris - Math and Computer Science

Due to increased demand, WHS is almost doubling the offerings for computer science. The Program of Studies lists the prerequisites for these courses and also has the “spaghetti chart” which shows the various math paths.

Nora Wilkins - Science, Tech and Engineering

A handout was provided which showed the various science offerings by year. This year for seniors, two courses are going to be offered as semester long courses - astronomy and engineering physics. Introduction to Engineering Technology is a prerequisite for the other engineering courses. Two years of science is required.

Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the September 11, October 10 and November 21, 2019 PTSO General Meeting minutes . The motions were approved.

Dana Plunkett - Guidance

Dana gave an overview of the process. On February 24 and 25, students will meet with teachers to discuss recommendations. On March 2, course selection will open and students and families can see course recommendations. Students can then select electives. Course recommendations are made in isolation - parents and students should decide what is best for students taking into consideration other courses along with outside activities and other obligations. Course selection is due March 13. If students want to change a course level, both parents and students need to sign a change of request form.

WHS tries to offer the number of sections to meet student demand. If more students than space, students are randomly selected for courses. Powerschool scheduling optimizes the number of sections offered and timing of classes based on March class selections. It is much harder to get into a class if you make changes after March.

It was noted that the requirements for WHS graduation may be different than what colleges require. For example, WHS only has a two year math requirement, but many colleges

require more - many state universities require four years of math. The WHS requirements can be found in the Program of Studies.

Question and Answer Session with Parents, Teachers and Administration

Upcoming Meetings

February 12: Course Selection Part 2 - English, Classical and Modern Languages, and Social Studies, and the Evolutions

February 28: Guidance Coffee - "Leadership From Within" - how to foster leadership skills in your adolescent and help them to become the best versions of themselves.

March 17 7pm: *If Only* Movie - parent and student event

March 27 9am : PTSO/Principal Coffee - Drugs & Alcohol Panel

Today's meeting was videoed and will be available on the PTSO website.

Respectfully submitted,

Mason Smith

Secretary