

**Wellesley High School**  
**PTSO General Board Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**September 28, 2022 at 9:30am**

**Meeting Attendees**

Executive Board Attendees: Jamie Chisum (Principal), Debbie Cutler-Ortiz (Co-VP), Meridith Edmonds (Co-President), Kate Staehly (Co-President), Kristen Toffer (Treasurer), Brooke Wheelan (Secretary), Stefanie Albertson (Co-VP, absent)

Faculty and Administrative Members: Rich Ghiorse (Computer Science), Mayra Hernandez (Dance), Anna Murphy (English), Andrew Riely (Social Studies), Sean Collins (Social Studies), Devin Ligon (Physical Education), Sara Jauniskis (Library), Becca Degrace (Library, Innovations), Amanda Holcombe (Languages - Spanish), Jess Forshner (Special Educator), Julie Caparco (Special Educator), Sheryl Stacey (Special Educator), Lauren Texter (Cornerstones), Thom Denman (Culinary Arts and Retail Management), John Malone (Assistant to Principal), Nile Fox (METCO Coordinator - absent), Chris McGrath (Athletics), Drew Kelton (Assistant Principal – Phillips House), Collin Shattuck (Assistant Principal – Perrin House)

Parent and Guardian Members: There was a quorum of over 20 non-executive board members.

**Leadership Welcome and Introduction of New Faculty – Jamie Chisum, Drew Kelton, Collin Shattuck**

Jamie welcomed everyone to the first in person PTSO meeting of the school year! Fifteen new teachers and administrators were invited to the meeting to introduce themselves, the courses they are teaching this year, and other initiatives within their departments. Refer to attendees noted above.

WHS Leadership and Faculty also covered the following topics in between and during introductions:

- Collin discussed the Club Fair for over 40 clubs that was held last week. He also discussed the process for starting a new club for students who are interested.
- Jamie asked for feedback and ideas for Back-To-School Night parking to be respectful of the neighborhood while making sure all parents can attend. He also covered the format of B2S night and what parents can expect.
- One new offering from the library is one-on-one research appointments that students can book online. The Makerspace technology is available to the entire

school and can be booked through the library. The library partners with different teachers and courses throughout the year. A Book Club on Young Adult (YA) books is also being offered for parents this year.

**PTSO Business – Debbie Cutler-Ortiz, Meridith Edmonds, Kate Staehly, Kristen Toffer, Brooke Wheelan**

- The Executive Board introduced themselves and their respective Board positions.
- There will be a special screening of the documentary, *If Only*, on October 19<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8:30pm, which will be used as a conversation tool on substance abuse. Jim Wahlberg will present the screening and open the dialog. Alice Goodrich (WHS Social Worker) and Shari Johnson (WHS nurse) will be on the discussion panel. The event is open to parents/guardians and students.
- The WHS School Council (the legislative branch of school government) has two open parent/guardian positions this year. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 2:45 to 4pm. Jamie is available to answer any questions and the application submission form is online.
- Kristen presented the proposed PTSO budget for the 2022/23 fiscal year. She discussed the five major expense areas and gave an overview of budgeted income and donations to date. Over 11% of families have participated to date and our goal this year is 100%. She also discussed the process for building the budget and invited questions. The budget will be voted on at the October General PTSO meeting.
- Brooke noted we had a quorum in attendance. Meeting Minutes from the 5/18/22 General Meeting were circulated. Lesley Prowda made a motion to approve the minutes, Tarah Hirschey seconded the motion. The Minutes were voted on and approved.

**Adjourned 11:05am**

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Brooke Wheelan  
PTSO Secretary