Walnut Hills High School Local Decision Making Committee Meeting April 21, 2016 7:00PM Minutes

Attendees

The following LSDMC members were in attendance: Mitch Perdrix, Amira Mesmer, Emily Bond, Brian Sweeney, Felicia Williams, Jeff Brokamp and Steve Baker. Eric Pryor, lead WHHS security, was a guest speaker.

Approval of Minutes

Security Report

Eric Pryor who is a retired police officer and head of WH security, spoke about the measures to which WHHS goes to keep everyone safe. The passing bells are the only times the doors are unlocked; the whole school has a network of security cameras and the secretary at the front desk has one to be able to see who is entering the building. Walnut Hills had one of the highest alarm drops in the city and Eric said they are working to change that. We now have reduced the drops to virtually none due to the new strategies and better communication. The training that security employees goes through is intensive and most of the security officers are retired policemen. Eric reported that we will be losing 20 parking spaces next year. Amira suggested we use the gravel lot but Jeff said that it would have to be secured which may pose complications. He said we can look into this idea but it gets complicated with city and school restrictions.

LSDMC Membership

Parents: Laura Deck, Steve Baker, Emily Bond Community: open Teachers: open Students: open

Principal's Report

Jeff had proposed looking into a later start time but would like to get more information and potentially conduct a survey to get parent feedback before it can happen. He said the gender neutral bathrooms may become a mandate in the near future so the administration is looking into being prepared for that. These bathrooms would have to be able to be locked and unlocked from both sides and they are looking into a single stall bathroom. Discussion followed.

Student's Report

Amira reported that student council is planning for the chalk drawing and car smash events being held on Earth Day. Prom voting was on line this year and the prom will be held April 23rd. Mitch said the kids who have helped with the event are amazing.

Amira again raised the issue of parking. She suggested making part of the existing curb a driveway. Jeff said they had tried to do that somewhere else on campus and it got complicated with the city. He also brought up the issue of security for a new lot. He said it can be a consideration, but we need to be aware of the complications that may surround such a proposal.

Evanston Community Report

There was no Evanston Community Report.

Other Business

Steve asked about enrollment and Jeff reported that the number for the 2015-16 7th grade class was 551 students. The number for the 2016-17 7th grade class is 517. There being no other business to report, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.