WCSD Student Advisory Council – Monthly Meeting

AGENDA / MEETING MINUTES

December 17, 2019 | 4:00-6:00 PM | Administrative Building – Board Room

Meeting facilitated by: Nathan Noble and Michelle Hammond

Students in attendance:
Nathan Noble, Wooster High School
Cody Klein, Reed High School
Julian Klein, Reed High School
Lyn Galindo-Cloud, McQueen High School
Aubree Mowery, McQueen High School
Mindy Tran, Dilworth Middle School
Leigh Fisher, Sparks High School
Fernanda Cardenas, TMCC High School
Brett Grimm, Reno High School
Ivy Batmale, Incline High School
Alejandro Mejia, Hug High School
Allyson DeCremer, North Valleys High School
Alexys DeCremer, Cold Springs Middle School
Kaelen Weigel, Reno High School
Tillie Bell-Bhatti, Incline High School

Adults in attendance:
Michelle Hammond, Student Voice Coordinator
Kristin McNeill, Interim Superintendent
Ben Hayes, Chief Accountability Officer
Laura Davidson, Director of Research and Evaluation
Fatima Rivas, Multicultural Outreach Specialist
Victor Sherbondy, Executive Director of Strategies Department
Margaret Allen, Director of Student Health Services
Rochelle Proctor, SHARE Coordinator
Debra Biersdorff, Chief Academic Officer

Welcome and Introductions: Share end-of-semester celebrations
What are you proud of accomplishing this semester? We are so proud of all of your accomplishments. From achieving grades you were pleased with to learning to speak up more, students shared a lot of exciting accomplishments with us and we want to thank you for making WCSD what it is. 😊
Guest Speaker: Ray Price, School Police

Topic: Student feedback on potential for a Traffic Safety Awareness Campaign.

What do students think about the proposed campaign “Be Your Own Guardian?”

- Bracelets might be better for elementary school students. Stickers are best for MS and HS. They put them on water bottles and cars and notebooks so it’s good advertising.
- There needs to be more reminders around school. Posters, videos that are shown in advisory, assemblies. Getting students involved in the campaign would help.
- Information also needs to get out to families. Students are more likely to listen to warnings from parents than teachers. Overall, students just don’t like being told what to do by adults. But parents can get through better.
- Students are willing to help with a video for the campaign.

Follow-up: Communications, School Police and Student Voice will collaborate to create a drafted script for a video to send out to SAC by January 14th. Drafted script will be sent to SAC for feedback and we will attempt to record a video during SAC meeting on 1/21/20. If you have any ideas for the script, please email them or post them to TEAMS. Otherwise, we will use the feedback we gathered during the meeting on 12/17/19.

Board Of Trustees Updates: Zoning committee continues to be a pressing topic and it is important that students weigh in.

We still need student representation for the following councils/commissions/committees:

1. SHARE Committee needs 2 students who will attend meetings and share thoughts about the SHARE curriculum (they meet one Wednesday per month). Please visit the website for more information and for the schedule of meetings. [https://www.washoeschools.net/Domain/483](https://www.washoeschools.net/Domain/483). Email MHammond@washoeschools.net by Friday 12/20/19 at 5pm if interested in serving in this position.

2. The Safe and Healthy Schools Committee needs 1 student to sit it on meetings and provide student perspective. Please visit the website for more information and for the schedule of meetings. [https://www.washoeschools.net/Domain/483](https://www.washoeschools.net/Domain/483). Email MHammond@washoeschools.net by Friday 12/20/19 at 5pm if interested in serving in this position.

3. Nevada Commission on Mentoring needs 1 student representative to attend meetings and provide student perspective. The Commission was established for the purpose of supporting and facilitating mentorship programs in the state of Nevada. Students serving on this commission will provide valuable student voice and perspective. Please visit the website for more information and schedule of meetings. Additionally, let us know if you have questions and we can connect you with the right person. [http://www.doe.nv.gov/Commission_on_Mentoring/](http://www.doe.nv.gov/Commission_on_Mentoring/).
Other opportunities for SAC:

1. **2020 MLK Event on January 20th.** We still have 2 more spots open! Here are those who are signed up to attend: Nathan, Zack, Julian, Lyn, Aubree, Fernanda, Victoria, Susy (more information to go out in a separate communication for students attending).
2. **SiV Elementary Edition - 2/28/20** – We need student presenters and hosts! Here’s who is signed up to help plan and host this event: Jayna, Mindy, Ivy, Julian
3. **Youth Ambassadors program.** Please note that there is opportunity separate from the bowling event including a 4-week leadership program over summer break that includes a FREE trip to DC. The flyers are in the meeting materials attached. Please spread the word at your schools!
4. **15 SAC members invited to Coconut Bowl with Brazil Youth Ambassadors on January 22nd from 6-8:30.** People who sign up include: Alexys, Allyson, Alejandro, Lyn, Julian, Aubree, Kaelen, Brett (I actually can’t remember if these students raised their hands for this or the Strength in Voices Event so please correct me if this is inaccurate).

Guest Speakers: Victor Sherbondy and Margaret Allen, Student Health Services
**Topic:** Policy 5630 recommendations from students regarding food allergies and Anaphylaxis in classrooms.

**Notes:**

- Kids share food a lot at all grade levels. It is a way to bond and share experiences, so if you limit that the goal should be to offer other ideas and ways to engage in meaningful ways.
  - Provide a list of activities that might be “cool” or fun to kids at various age levels so teachers have ideas to use.
  - Give examples of what it looks like to share food safely, e.g. read labels and ask questions before sharing.
- Whatever policy is instated needs to be enforced!
  - Teachers enforce rules inconsistently and interpret rules differently. The language has to be very clear and direct.
  - Administrators don’t consistently enforce rules so even in the same school, there is a lot of variation.
- It was unanimous that these policies are important at the elementary level but not at the middle and high school level.
  - MS and HS students don’t care as much about being left out. They are old enough to have learned how to handle these situations and not take it personal. (Coincidentally, student with Celiac Disease who missed out on pizza during this meeting fully agreed).
  - Teach elementary student how to share food safely but they may be too young still to avoid temptations or they may not fully understand what they should/shouln’t eat.
- Family communication is important.
  - Parents need to teach their students how to self-advocate.
  - Teach parents about allergies so they can have conversations with their children (especially for families with no allergies who might not understand the risk).
  - When parents are the ones to tell students to do something or not do something it is more effective because the message is usually more consistent.
- Students suggested a campaign that builds community awareness about this issue.
  - Maybe back-to-school night is a good time to add allergies awareness into the agenda?
  - Some people in the community might think this is a way for WCSD to avoid getting sued. A campaign would help them better understand how this truly is about children’s safety.

**Student Voice Mission Statement and Policy Update**
If you have any suggested changes to the mission statement, please submit them prior to our 1/17/20 SAC meeting.
Guest Speaker: Rochelle Proctor, WCSD SHARE Coordinator

Topic: Recruitment for student representatives on the SHARE Advisory Committee

Student representation has never been part of SHARE advisory other than public comment. This committee recently worked on adoption of the HS curriculum updates and will now begin updating MS. There are only 4 more meetings this school year. Meetings do not address new agenda items beyond 8:30, so students would not be required to stay beyond that time, even if the meeting continued (sometimes public comment goes into the late hours). These 2 student reps would be able to come back to SAC for feedback.

Brainstorm potential topics/agenda items for upcoming meetings

Topics suggested for upcoming meetings include: later start times, code red/disaster drill protocol, school lunches.

TEAMS!! There is now a “class” set up for Student Advisory Council. Please log in to TEAMS and look around! 😊

Upcoming dates:
January 8th 3:30-5:30 at the Admin Building: Leadership Development Workshop. We will do some teambuilding and then work on projects! (Planning the Strength in Voices Event, the Ethnic Studies Course Proposal, and the script for the traffic safety video).

January 21st 4:00-6:00 in the Board Room: Student Advisory Council Meeting: Agenda includes working on the traffic safety video and a presentation about how policies in WCSD are changed.

January 22nd 6:00-8:30: Coconut Bowl with the Brazil Youth Ambassadors.