

# **WMS Partnership Accountability Meeting Agenda**

## **February 11, 2025 / 6:00 PM / Virtual: Microsoft Teams**

**Lead Participants:** Mónica Garcia (Principal), Olivia Phillips (PAC Co-Chair), Wade Nedved (PAC/PTCO Representative) Mark Wackwitz (Assistant Principal), Leah Hein (Secretary), *VACANT*(Community Member),

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome
  - One accountability meeting/quarter; trying virtual tonight to see if it increases attendance
2. District Accountability Committee Update (DAC Liaison)
  - A. Future Meeting dates/locations (Community and Subcommittees)
    - There will be a shared accountability with Campus and Creek on April 29th-more information to come as it gets closer
    - DAC family and community engagement subcommittee meeting 2/11 at 7:00pm virtually; all are welcome and encouraged to join
    - DAC UIP meeting next week; all are welcome to join
    - March 5th is the next DAC meeting at CCIC(would be a great way to check out the CCIC campus if you haven't had the chance to)
    - Slide shown to detail the different subcommittees in DAC and what the purpose is of DAC and ways to be involved
    - Some areas of discussion at the State level that were mentioned including: looking at a new way of rating schools and new metrics to do it by, looking at modernizing state assessments and making the results known sooner so teachers can more readily/easily utilize them, and looking for ways to identify schools in need sooner
3. PTCO
  - a. Updates/Events

- On January 14th there was a general PTCO meeting where they discussed the transition from middle school to high school, which was lead by Marcus McDavid (assistant principal at Creek)
- On January 28th the Wildcat Welcome Night has held where parents of 5th graders and the 5th grade students got to come tour West and get some information about what to expect next year
  - another round of grants were submitted by teachers, which are planned to be reviewed tomorrow(2/12) by the board
  - to stay up to date on PTCO information follow their facebook page
  - PTCO is looking for volunteers for next year now(you can get more information on the school website under the PTCO tab)

#### b. Q&A

Are there still volunteer needs for this year? There are always small needs throughout the year including volunteers for the grade level parties. Find information on the website or emails will be sent to parents regarding help needed for the grade level parties in the coming weeks.

### 4. Principal's Report: **The "State of School"**

#### a. Celebrations

##### 1. Student Achievements

- During Wildcat Welcome night, the 8th grade WEB leaders helped run and facilitate the evening; had a great turn out for the night
- Two students placed in the district spelling bee and one student, Nathan, qualified for the state bee on Feb 20th
- There was a small ceremony for veterans to receive puppies with the funds that were raised to pay for training and vet bills for the first year. The money was raised and presented by NJHS
- Tim Cave(special education para) received all star award and Justin(security guard) received golden heart award for going above and beyond with students and creating connections

\*Cell phone update

- phones need to be off and out of sight until 3:45

- students can use the phones throughout the building if they need to call home during school hours
- Information about violations is detailed on the slide
- 8th grade leads with the most violations, but violations are decreasing to single digits within a given day
- Teachers feel a difference in the hallways and classrooms and the lunch room is louder, which is great because students are interacting more with one another instead of a screen
- The question was asked: Has there been an uptick in discipline with more student interactions? Ms. Garcia responded: We are feeling some of the unsettledness that's in the nation at school for sure, and this time of year is usually a tough time for discipline, so there is not really enough time or information to know yet.

## 2. Staffing Filled

- A new teacher started in the special education department, so West is back to full staffing
- Libby Ellington is the teacher of the year at West. She is in the ILC department.

## 3. UIP Check-IN

- Reading and Math: data points for STAR testing were shown on a slide for comparing student scores from fall to winter
- There was a small drop in proficiency for both areas from fall to winter
- Goal of 50% growth was achieved for reading, but math showed 47% so didn't hit a year of growth in math
- The focus area in math is modeling and application as that is the biggest area of need as shown by the STAR results
- Sense of belonging(3rd area of UIP): slide to show the growth of sense of belonging based on the results of the panorama screener
- West had one of the biggest increases in the district from spring to fall
- The question was asked: Can you give a quick definition of sense of belonging? "The students feel they are valued members of the school community" A sample question was shared from the screener: "How connected do I feel to the adults at my school?"

## b. Works In Progress

### 1. Budget

- 5% decrease in overall budget for West because of enrollment decline
- State proposal to decrease 17 million for the district as a whole, which is not great news and is a very large cut, but CCSD is in a better place than some districts since we were able to pass our Mill and Bond(Specific numbers shown on slides)
- Ways to help with budget: PTCO supports a library tech for West, so staffing doesn't have to be used for a media specialist
- Staffing cuts will be discussed with the staff soon and then more can be shared about staffing

## 2. Enrollment

- 968 students projected for next year which is a decline

### c. CMAS Insight

- Testing will occur April 8th-11th; only 8th grade has to test on the 11th
- West has a higher than average opt out rate
- Reasons shared to take CMAS: to grow test endurance in a testing environment, to gain practice taking timed tests, so teachers can have and use the data for guiding instruction
- The question was asked: Could students have an opportunity to go back through their test afterwards to learn from their mistakes? Ms. Garcia answered: Unfortunately they are not allowed to because the questions and answers for CMAS are not released until they are retired. Students are asked questions to practice explaining their thinking and how they arrive at a particular answer, which is a lot of what CMAS expects.

## 4. Electives Spotlight

- registration will take place in the next couple of weeks for current 6th and 7th grade students
- There is no intro world language courses offered in 8th grade, and French is only offered in 7th and 8th grade
- Parents can find information on the website under the “registration” tab where there are videos to highlight the different electives

5. Controlled parent pick up review

- Could not safely have parents entering the building for conferences without checking them into the system with the limited information the administration had at the time
- Did a controlled parent pick up because there was not enough information to safely release students otherwise
- Having one exit point in the building allowed for the best control of people coming in and out of the building
- The whole process took about 2 hours
- They quickly learned those who were at the grade level doors had to be staff members with access to all students in power school
- The procedure has been in place for a couple of years and this was the second time it was used, and the school will continue to reflect and grow the process.

**\*\*Next meeting is no longer on March 26th, but moving to April 2nd at 6pm - Design Hub \*\***