

**PTA General Meeting**  
**3rd Tuesday / March 19, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.**

# Meeting Minutes

**President:** Clay Melton called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.  
**Anthony B. seconds.**

Attendees: Clay Melton, Anthony Betters, Kelley Cole, Ian LeMaster, Dorea Burkamper, Shawna Ripple, Sandy Scaia, Cymone Green, Charlotte Butikofer, Kristin Mangrich, Nicole Pedron, Diana Ledford, Tiffany Rambo, Rebecca Lindwall, Jewels Holladay, Karen Swanson

## Executive Committee Reports:

Approve Last Meeting Minutes:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cFek-gHgKU0vLjDIFIXUwtcQyN34sn2qiHs1Cki5pMY/edit?usp=sharing>

Motion to approve. Seconded by Nicole Pedron to second.

- We need a secretary.
- We are burning reserves now. Cash wise we are fine, but our donations are way down. Next year, we will be able to cover around half of what we spent this year.

We need to rethink how we do PTA. Let's have a discussion about how we can better connect parents and teachers to the Academic side of Washington High School.

Do we need a re-branding? Should we start the year with, "Do we want Washington to be better" as our Principal suggested? How do we spark pride and ownership from our parent and Teacher community?

Can we put out a Google Form and ask for feedback? What types of questions should we ask?

- Should we host the PTA meeting in the evenings or during the day?
- Should we have 10 minutes at the end for general questions to Washington Staff?
- Does anyone want a coffee cup that says something like "Washington Parent Committee" on it with the first \$20 donation? Should we have other gifts for higher donation amounts like yard signs? What if we had a different "gift" every couple of months (done all on-line)?
- What about a Patreon Account? Would a format like that help?

- Any thoughts on our social media use? Should we shut it down and just use Cymone's School-wide emails for better security? Or, should we move away from our small Facebook account to a newsletter format?
- We are going to discuss PTA sustainability outside of this meeting too. Should we choose to dissolve, convert to a Cedar Rapids Foundation organization, or remain part of Iowa PTA.

What do you think? This next meeting is about feedback for us to get better for next year. How can we get your voice heard?

[Draft Survey Creation Link.](#)

Clarification from Karen S. on the CR Community School Foundation after the subject came up in discussion. Clay mentioned the 5% accounting fee which largely eliminates much of the duties needed by a Treasurer role.

Clarification on costs if we move to CR Community School Foundation costs comment:

*notes about Clay's comment on the CR Cmty Schools Foundation 5% fee, with consideration of moving PTA to the CRCSF.*

1. *5% fee is not taken on any balance an org moves to the CRCSF.*
2. *CRCSF covers all org venmo, PayPal, credit card, postage fees, which is a benefit.*
3. *in 2023 the investment return on CRCSF restricted accounts was 16.1% which means even after paying the 5% admin fee, the org has a GAIN on funds.*

*Happy to provide more factual information on the CRCSF fiscal agent program, if desired*

Nominating Committee Requested for Executive PTA Positions for next year. No volunteers named. Will push emails after meeting.

Multiple people expressed interest in moving to the CR foundation: Dorea Burkamper, Charlotte Butikofer, Kristin Mangrich, Nicole Pedron, Rebecca Lindwall, and, Karen Swanson

## **Principal's Report: Ian LeMaster**

- Technology (Cell phone) Policy (Good feedback)
- New Attendance Policy - next year
- Upcoming date: Senior Recognition Ceremony -Monday, April 22nd 6:00pm (when seniors receive scholarships, certs., and medallions) \*46 students submitting applications for scholarships - MOST EVER!!

## **Counseling Report: Shawna Ripple/ShaNell Young**

- Students cannot switch from in-person to online after midterms, unless there is a special circumstance
- March 26th - Pre ACT/ACT for 10th and 11th grades
- April 3rd & 4th - ISASPs for 9th-11th grades.
- Remind online learners that they MUST show up for ISASP testing.
- FAFSA Update (National Concern) - Kristin

## Committee Reports

### Membership: Anthony Betters

- Please donate for 2024 school year - Your chance to get your voice heard
- Membership Survey
- Sharing Social Media Post (<https://www.facebook.com/crwashPTA>)
- Secretary needed (if you are on the PTA calls monthly you are a good candidate)

### Optimus Club Holiday Flags

- Tanya Schneidermann's last kid graduates this year, and she is asking for a replacement person to lead this effort.

### Hospitality: Dorea Burkamper (& LeAnn Willis as Shadow)

- No report needed this month
- 

### Grounds: Christine Erickson

Reminder that we are having a spring campus garden clean-up on Saturday, April 20 at 9am. Please meet by the arcade and bring your own garden tools if available. The week of the event, I will have another reminder email sent out.

We have decided to hold-off on re-doing the garden by the arcade as we would like to have a chance to see what plants are currently growing there over the summer and then design it using some of the current plants.

We are also discussing having trees planted between the track and the jock lot. I can work on a specific design including the number and types of trees if the administration is okay moving forward with this plan. This could either be done in conjunction with the clean-up on April 20 or can be a separate planting day. I would like to have students involved in this potential planting project.

### Warrior Closet: Amy Rouse

The largest needs are always: Backpacks, Wash Gear (tshirts, sweatshirts) chapstick, belts.

Attached my updated info sheet on the closet, feel free to share with the group! Let me know if you have any questions. [Warrior Closet 2023-2024](#)

Amy Rouse reachable at [arouse@crschools.us](mailto:arouse@crschools.us), or 319-558-463

**College Connections: Becky Lindwall Notes with Counseling**

- No report needed this month.

**Last Ten Minutes: General Questions to Washington Staff and Counselors**

- 

**Meeting Adjourned: 10:01 a.m. seconded by Anthony**

**Any questions or comments?**

**Please contact us at: [crwashpta@gmail.com](mailto:crwashpta@gmail.com)**

# **Reference Items (Not Discussed in Meeting)**

## **Volunteer Reference Information**

Raptor Volunteering Tracking System,

<https://apps.raptortech.com/Volunteer/Login/MTE5OTpWb2x1bnRIZXI6ZW4tVVM=>

or reach from the Washington High School Website:

<https://washington.crschools.us/students-families/parent-teacher-association/>

This link will be posted at the end of each month as a reminder to enter your volunteer hours. Make Washington's Volunteer hours show up in district records! Go Warriors!

## **Washington Counseling Information**

<https://sites.google.com/site/cwrcounseling/home>

## **Executive Contact Information**

Role, Name, Contact Information:

- President, Clay Melton, 319-329-0907  
or [claymelton@icloud.com](mailto:claymelton@icloud.com)
- Vice President, Anthony Betters, (254) 495-4915  
or [anthoybettersjr@gmail.com](mailto:anthoybettersjr@gmail.com)
- Treasurer, Kelley Cole, 319-210-6800  
or [kelleyc7525@gmail.com](mailto:kelleyc7525@gmail.com)
- We need a PTA Secretary!