



**WMS PTCO General Meeting  
Tuesday Sept 21, 2021  
WMS  
DRAFT (to be approved on Nov 16 at the next WMS  
General PTCO Meeting)**

**Call to order / 9:35am**

- Board members in attendance in person: (2) Christina Nathanson (co-president) and Erika Cheley (secretary)
- Other parent attendees in attendance: 5
- WMS personnel in attendance: Monica Garcia and Sarah Mong.
- Notes below were taken by Erika Cheley

**Signs of Suicide Presentation:**

Sarah Mong (WMS Social Worker) works closely with WMS Psychologist Tom MacDougall and the two counselors: Justin Cantrell and Rebecca Restad. [All 4 of us on the mental health team are teaching SoS to all 3 grade levels.](#)

See slides [here](#)

- Signs of Suicide is a presentation underway now for the 3 grades. Will also hold a Spring 2022 refresher course for the students.
- Purchased from Mindwise by CCSD.
- Initially used for 7th graders but expanded to all 3 grade levels more than 5 years ago. Good to use across district in case families move schools.
- West was the 1st school to supplement with 6th and 8th grade curricula.
  - remote implementation option
  - Combo of videos/discussion
  - Refresher in spring

Verbiage used for all students in all 3 grades: ACT: Acknowledge, Care and Tell a trusted adult.

6th/8<sup>th</sup>:

- PowerPoint presentations that are a combination of discussion questions/T/F, videos
- Regularly update videos to be culturally relevant and inclusive
- Each school personalizes their presentation for their students.

Awareness about Talk about depression / 2 weeks or longer.  
We implemented this program ~12 years ago

Passive permission slips are being sent out (if we don't hear from you, we will go ahead and teach it.)

See youtube video or here on the CCSD website: [Together we make the difference](#)

This is not a one-time training. Parents are part of the dynamic as well.  
The only wrong thing to say is "don't worry about it" when a child asks for help.  
It is ok to say "I'm not equipped to deal with this, let's find someone who can help us"

Trusted adult component:

- Training every fall; every adult in every building across the district gets the training
- Reminds adults how to respond if there is a child that comes to them asking for help
- Emphasizes adults don't need be mental health experts, but do need to listen to the student and get them to someone trained to help.

Social/Emotional learning at WMS:

Tier 1:

- Restorative circles
- Second Step lessons
- Mindful Monday

Tier 2:

- Restorative justice process

Safe2Tell number is on the back of student ids.

## Monica Garcia update:

- See slides [here](#).
- Signs of Suicide - we don't want kiddos to feel like they have to bear the weight so it is helpful to teach A.C.T. (see above)
- Currently 1079 students; under our projection of 1095.
- We are boy heavy in 7th/8th grade (see slides)
- Special Populations at WMS:
  - 5 learning disability teachers. Teachers will push in (not pull out) to the classroom. Special Education: LA and math
  - Multi-lingual learners (formerly ESL). 1.4 teachers for push in. All students receiving grade level content. LA and Social Studies.
  - GT: 230 in program, 26 talent pool. 2.0 staff members
  - WMS has the most in the district at the middle level for GT learners
- Conferences 11/10 4:00-8:00 pm, 11/16 9:30am general meeting, 12/13 9:30 accountability meeting (more focused on the academic information. Science and Electives will be covered at the 12/13 meeting)
- Volunteer options: design hub (library), crosswalk duty, various PTCO roles. Please talk to Christina Nathanson <christina\_heeyoon@yahoo.com> or Tim Thein <tthein66@gmail.com> or call the front office if you're interested in helping.
- Thankfully vandalism is quieting down. We did have some damage to WMS including damaged soap dispensers, a clock went missing, a pencil sharpener, etc. A thorough investigation has taken place and we have identified 4 individuals who did some damage to our school. Most items have been returned. Other schools across the country are seeing this as well, not just CCSD.
- WMS wants to stress that we challenge our students to act in the right: say something kind, random act of kindness, etc.
- Some kiddos made bad choices, but this is not the majority of our students!

CCSD is currently moving to Oracle (a more centralized platform) so Oct 1st - everything will open back up for hiring purposes then.

Conferences:

- 1st round was virtual,
- Know that you can request a meeting with a teacher at any time!
- Next year, we will move conferences up from November (only offering one evening in September is not enough and it's too long to wait until Nov to check in with teachers).

## Christina Nathanson PTCO co-president update:

- Biggest need for help – we need Co-Presidents to shadow for next year. We also have other board positions that need to be filled.
- If you're interested, email [WMSPTCOpresident@gmail.com](mailto:WMSPTCOpresident@gmail.com)
- Quick budget update / you can always check the [PTCO website](#) where the budget is posted.
- Upcoming changes:
  - Created an income line item for Teacher appreciation & budget amount of \$4,500, which increased our overall income to \$132,188.48 (the ELA books to Elective enrichment change was already on the version posted on the website, so doesn't need to be raised here)
  - Increased grant expenses budget from \$34,975.98 to \$39,475.98 (\$4,500 increase)
  - Increased overall expenses budget from \$127,688.48 to \$132,188.48
- Motion to approve the above: Sara Meredith approved / Vicki Hughes approved. No one opposed.

**Wildcat Challenge:** thank you to our volunteers! We're finalizing numbers, but we are currently at \$72,000 (93% of our expected amount). The funds raised help pay for a variety of items that the district cannot fund, including the full-time nurse tech as well as grants for teachers.

The day started out cold (thanks Monica for toughing it out in the dunk tank) but students had a great day.

**Treasurer update:** income and expenses to date.

- We carried over \$59,543.50 from 20/21 to 21/22 - \$19,537.44 in checking, \$40,006.06 in Money Market (allowed by our bylaws to prefund budget for spending that occurs before our fundraising begins)
- Per the Budget Vs Actual Report
  - Our budget for the year is approximately \$132,000
  - Income to date is approx. \$45,000
    - Family giving \$20,000 (over halfway to \$35K budget)
    - Spirit Wear \$5,700 (no expenses to date)
    - Character Dev \$8,610 (\$10,000 budget)
    - School Store \$3,700 (expenses still to be submitted)
    - Teacher appreciation \$5,170
    - Wildcat Challenge (Net amount unknown at present as we are closing out books / reimbursing expenses and banking checks)
  - Expenses to date \$44,000.
    - WMS returned approx. \$17,000 in unspent funds from previous years to PTCO, so our expenses look lower than we expected. The funds were from the 2017-18 school year when we went through a change in administration and office manager. Monica arrived Fall of 2018.
    - Funding covers many program expenses as listed in budget vs actual report, along with nurse tech salary payment

**Questions?**

- If you haven't been getting the West Wildcat Weekly (next one to go out 9/24), reach out to WMS Main Office at 720-554-5180. You should have received the emails on: 8/27, 9/10, 9/24.
- Character development update: Sarah Schroeder is our committee chair. They are exploring 4-5 different options and will narrow it down to find the best one for our middle schoolers. Background: 6th graders used to go to CCHS to work with CCHS students at Adventure Quest in a team-building experience. Will try to do that again but this year have to do something different due to lingering COVID concerns. 7th / 8th usually have a presentation on anti-bullying, resiliency or other topic which is then carried over into their Access classes. We've had different guest speakers come in. For instance, in the past we had Ethan Fischer speak (a college athlete who unfortunately killed someone while drunk driving). He is now try to help youth make different decisions. The sessions are typically held in Access, though sometimes if the presenter wants a more rowdy experience, they might hold the session in the gym. This is in addition to 2nd step curriculum. These events are usually held at the end of Oct/Nov time frame.

### **Upcoming PTCO Dates:**

11/16/2021 9:30 AM General PTCO Meeting

1/18/2022 9:30 AM General PTCO Meeting

4/26/2022 9:30 AM General PTCO Meeting (Cherry Creek High School Principal)

### **Closing:**

Meeting adjourned at 10:31am