Principal's Report: Kurt Barker

- Thanks to the West community for taking care of the 300 ornaments on the Giving Tree, a community outreach project of the National Honor Society students. All of the ornaments were cleared off the tree, around $2000 was raised, and the donated presents were all wrapped.
- The Senior Class coat drive ends tomorrow.
- In academics, the winter wave of the Keystone Exams has wrapped up and midterm exams are scheduled for next week.
- On Martin Luther King, Jr, Day, West will be hosting a viewing of Selma in the auditorium. As part of West's community outreach, the viewing is open to the public and popcorn and water will be provided.
- It is the end of the first semester and the school is transitioning to preparations for graduation, senior academic awards, and scholarships. Scholarship applications will be going out at the end of January and the beginning of February.
- **Course Selection Information (in lieu of a formal presentation)**
  - Course selection night is 2/6/17 from 6:30 – 8:30pm, with the presentation to the 8th grade students and parents at 6:30 in the auditorium. 9th through 11th grade students and parents will proceed directly to the cafeteria.
    - Counselors will be at DMS on January 25th to meet with 8th grade students prior to course selection.
    - On February 1st, there will be a modified homeroom schedule to allow for distributing paperwork and viewing the course selection video.
  - Students will have eight days to enter course requests. Then counselors will touch base with each student.
  - Between early March and the end of the 3rd marking period, scheduling and staffing requests will begin using the course tallies from student course requests.
  - Staff massage schedule best they can. There are no grade preferences and the goal is to have no conflicts first for singletons, then for doubles, and so on.
  - Classes can be “overbooked.”
  - Goal: Offer all classes in all columns (traditional, blended, and cyber).
- Wrestling team is having an unbelievable year. Five students will likely go to states; two will probably medal.
• Stage West's winter show is January 26 – 27.
• The 1:1 Device Initiative rollout went smoothly. Some students had access issues, e.g., being able to print from their devices.
  ◦ Support is available Tuesdays and Thursdays; support desk for MWF.
  ◦ Devices are receiving lots of use in classes.

Approval of 12/8/16 Minutes:
• Minutes were shown to all who attended the 12/8/16 meeting and there were no corrections.

Joint H&S and School Board Updates:
• School Board
  ◦ Program of Study approved; it is online, with limited hardcopies available.
  ◦ Looking into new copiers and their use
  ◦ New security company now being used
  ◦ Not raising taxes is the board's goal
• Joint Home & School
  ◦ Closed application process for superintendent; 32 candidates
    ▪ New superintendent should be approved in March or April
  ◦ 2017-2018 school calendar has been approved
  ◦ 325 new students joined the district this school year
    ▪ Redistricting is a possibility

New Business:
• Treasurer's Report – Heidi Walker
  ◦ Some money was received: $93 for Flower Power and $118 for Spirit Wear
  ◦ Balance stands at $6647.58; a little less than $1500 designated in the Helping Hands fund
• Home & School Updates – Eleanore Meals
  ◦ Catalyst Bootcamp dates: February 25-26 for SAT prep
  ◦ Holocaust Symposium and luncheon on 4/21, a Friday (date is confirmed)
    ▪ Some discussion of what might happen with the symposium going forward
    ▪ Volunteers will be requested to donate desserts
    ▪ Organizers might need volunteers to drive participants to/from symposium

DHSWest HSA Minutes for January 12, 2017
Teacher Appreciation Luncheon is in need of a coordinator
  - Typically it is held near the end of April
  - Some donations and some purchased items; SignUpGenius for sign-ups

Scholarships committee will be starting up soon
  - Task is to choose 4 winners (2 male, 2 female), but have back-ups since students can generally only receive one scholarship award
  - Roughly 2 volunteers to handle around 30 applications
  - Advice: proofread, proofread the student names and double-check with Mr. Jones
  - An email will be sent to those who expressed interest in helping with the committee

The preparations for the Post-Prom Party are moving along. This year's theme is the beach. The Lionville Y has been arranged as the location, the DJ has been contacted, etc. More volunteers are needed, especially anyone who is willing to carry over knowledge to next year's Post-Prom Party.

Questions from Parents
  - Q: Will the AP Seminar class be offered? A: Yes, it should run next year. Any grade student can take it.
  - Q: Are electives only scheduled for 8th period? A: No. Even though students participating in sports miss 8th period several times, 8th period cannot strictly be for electives.
  - Q: What is the expected turn-around time for teachers to grade assignments? A: Around 7 days.
  - Q: Any update on the request for auditorium renovation? A: Still getting needs/wants from the school departments. Costs could be in the 6 to 7 figures. What gets done when is still an issue, as is where the money will come from.
  - Q: Any update on the “Maker Space”? A: Waiting for librarian to come back from leave.

Adjournment – Next Home & School meeting will be on May 11, 2017.

Concluded at 8:33pm

Attendees:
Eleanore Meals, Heidi Walker, Julie Christopher, Jen McGovern, Tiffany Fee, Stephanie Fanelli, Sharon Swankoski, Cate Grace, Esther Weintraub, Heather Mochulski