Principal Report: Kurt Barker

- At the School Board meeting, 47 National Merit commended and semi-finalist students were recognized. It is the largest number for many years.

- School Performance Profile results are in. Assistant Principal Farrell leads the data team to analyze the school's strengths and weaknesses and to propose strategies for moving forward.
  - The school's focus is on growth. Where were we above expectations? What was the top growth category?
  - Teachers are asked to reflect on last year's students and how they did, and then think about students in front of them right now, in terms of strengths and weaknesses, in order to design lesson plans.

- The Homecoming Queen, Peyton Bradley, was announced at the Homecoming game.

- Sports update: Girls' golf is undefeated and girls' tennis is going to states. Girls' soccer and volleyball are going to districts. Boys' cross country is going to districts and boys' soccer is doing well. 9th grade football won against East.

- The school administration is preparing for the 1:1 Device Initiative rollout, mid-December to early January, depending on the delivery of the devices.

- Projects around school:
  - The courtyard is being cleaned up and painted. Tech Ed, FCS, and Science departments are helping with the outdoor furniture and garden.
  - Mr. Barker will be pushing for a new auditorium, or at the very least a facelift or renovation. He will be starting in late October and early November and would appreciate parent support when approaching the School Board.
    - One idea is to expand to have a balcony on the 2nd floor. The goal would be to increase the number of seats since seats are limited, for example, for musical performances meaning more shows need to be scheduled. Also, the auditorium is rented out to other organizations and increasing the number of seats would enhance the auditorium's appeal.

Approval of 9/8/16 Minutes:

- Motion to approve was seconded; unanimous approval. The approved minutes will be put on the HSA Website.
New Business:

- Treasurer's Report – Heidi Walker
  - New checks have arrived.
  - H&S checking balance is slightly less than $4900.
  - H&S received a $150 donation from DAEA.
  - $280 in donations were received for the Prior family; adding in money from the H&S's Helping Hands funds, $350 in total (plus a Giant gift card) was given to Tina Forsythe to give to the family.
    - At the beginning of the school year, the Prior family lost their home in a fire. There is a GoFundMe page for online donations and the H&S is accepting donations on their behalf as well (send to school's main office; checks payable to West HSA and “Prior family” in the memo of the check).
  - The Flower Power fundraising campaign raised $93 so far. It has been extended to the 21st.
  - Unclear how much has been earned for Spirit Wear recently.
  - Approximately 15 students attended the Catalyst Bootcamp; no check has been received yet.
    - Side note: The school also has in-house SAT preparation available.

- Home & School Updates – Eleanore Meals
  - Information from the School Board and Joint Home & School:
    - Communities That Care and the district have engaged speaker Chris Herren for a series of talks, for students and parents. The talk for West parents will be on April 4th at 7pm.
    - On April 3rd, the district will have an event featuring Jessica Lahey, author of the district-wide bookclub's book, “The Gift of Failure”.
    - In February, Dr. Christine Meyers will be part of the Wellness / PAYS initiative.
    - Current district policies being discussed: allergies, wellness, celebrations
  - Post Prom Party update:
    - Next meeting is October 17th.
    - Still in need of coordinators for major areas.
    - Currently under consideration: using the Lionville YMCA (quote is in hundreds of dollars as opposed to thousands of dollars for the USTC).
      - 30 volunteers need to be present at all times, if held at the Lionville YMCA.
      - Need to check that district's insurance can be used.
      - Using the Lionville YMCA does not change anything for grant purposes.
    - The PPP will be held night of June 2nd / morning of June 3rd; typically 60 – 70% of students attending prom attend the PPP.
Questions from Parents

◦ Are the daily announcements available? How often are they updated?
  ▪ They are available on the school's Website as documents to be downloaded; usually updated within a day or two.
  ▪ It might be possible to put the announcements on Schoology as well.

◦ How is math placement done for 9th grade; it is Algebra II or Geometry?
  ▪ The change in the curriculum order (Algebra II in 9th grade, Geometry in 10th) is already in effect. However, there are students in higher grade from before the curriculum change who are taking Algebra II along with 9th graders.
  ▪ Depends on what was taken at DMS or possibly over the summer; if student already took Algebra II, then Geometry could be taken in 9th grade.

◦ Are 9th grade students required to attend the TCHS field trip scheduled for the early dismissal / PSAT day (October 19th)? What if they don't turn in permission slips?
  ▪ Students are not required to attend; they will have study hall periods instead.
  ▪ Only two regular periods, 4th and 5th, are scheduled with lunch period modifications.
  ▪ Permission slips can be turned in up to the day of the field trip, but preferred earlier.

◦ When will parent/teacher conferences sign ups start?
  ▪ The weekly email will contain information for the conferences on November 8th (morning) and 10th (evening). PTCFast appointment scheduling should open on Sunday.

Adjournment – Next Home & School meeting date will be announced.

Concluded at 7:45pm

Attendees:
Eleanore Meals, Heidi Walker, Julie Christopher, Stephanie Fanelli, Melissa Jozefiak, Sharon Swankoski, Karen Jaran, Heather Mochulski, Tiffany Fee

The meeting was followed by a presentation by Assistant Principal Ryan Farrell regarding West's School Performance Profile data and how to interpret the data in terms of the school's growth in key areas.