

Woodstation Elementary School
Fall Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Date: September 6, 2023

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Invited: All WES parents and guardians

Welcome

Mr. Ellis greeted everyone and began the meeting. A flyer advertising this meeting was placed on the website, sent home in daily folders, and sent out in text and dojo messages.

PAC Objectives

This meeting is a time for parents to learn more about the family engagement program and to give input. Research shows when parents are engaged in their student's learning, students have higher achievement. Woodstation is thankful for everything parents do to support student learning.

Meeting Agenda

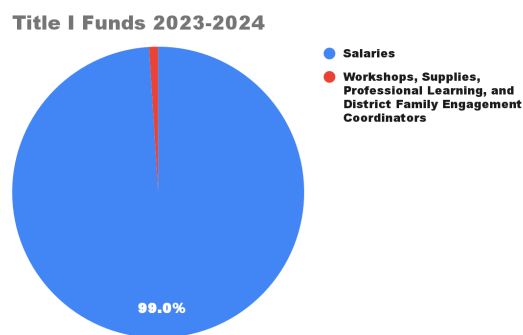
The explanation of purpose for meeting-the major work of the Parent Advisory Council meeting is:

- Discuss and collect input regarding school policy and compacts
- Approve compacts
- Policy discussion

In addition, parents are encouraged to check the school website and Family Resource Center for Title I information and parent resources. There is a Virtual Parent Resource Center that provides links to documents and digital booklets and brochures for parents. Paper copies of documents are always available in the Family Resource Center and upon request.

How WES uses Title I money

- Being a Title I school means WES receives extra funds to enrich the academic environment of all students. There is a budget brochure that remains on the school website all year and includes a visual graph of the use of funds. Budget explanation and discuss Title I spending-here is how Title I parent and family engagement money is being spent this school year:



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- Full-time Academic Coach (Kandy Carter)
- Family Engagement Coordinator (Mitzi Mew)
- Parent and Family Engagement workshops and supplies like FAST Nights and transition workshops.
- A small percentage of the budget is used to fund a Family Engagement Coordinator at the District level.

Parents are encouraged to share suggestions for Title I funds by completing the Fall PAC feedback form or by contacting Mitzi Mew. (see Fall PAC Feedback).

Review of Family Engagement Policies

Woodstation and the district create policies that describe opportunities for parents to be involved and support their student's learning. These policies are created jointly with parents and WES collects feedback throughout the year on these policies. Parents are encouraged to read over the policies and to leave input on the Fall PAC feedback form or by contacting Mitzi Mew. (see FALL PAC Feedback).

Family-School Compact for Achievement Discussion

The Family-School Compact for Achievement is a promise that teachers, parents, and students are working together for student success. Students, parents, and teachers all provide input for the compacts. Compact drafts were posted for parent review August 17-September 6, 2023. No suggestions for revisions were given. The posted compact drafts will be the final compacts for this school year if they are approved by parents. Parents unanimously approved the compacts by indicating approval on the feedback form at the end of the PAC meeting (see FALL PAC Feedback).

Review of Fall Survey Results/Plan of Action

Woodstation's Fall Parent Survey was done electronically through a QR code that was sent home. Parents were able to view results during the PAC presentation via a handout. The results of the survey are used to create a plan for family events offered by the school. A parent gave input on survey response "none of above" (for any question), stating that it is an overwhelming time of year and giving that response is a sign that the parent feels overwhelmed. She said that you may want to do the survey again at a less stressful time of year. Mitzi explained that the spring survey will be given out in March/April, and will be an opportunity for parents to give further input.

The Plan of Action for SY23-24 includes FAST meetings and conferences, transition meetings, and Georgia Milestones information. The first FAST meeting will be September 21 and it will be held virtually.

School and State Assessments

WES students take MAP Growth Assessments in reading and math. Students in Kindergarten-5th grade take these tests in the fall, winter, and spring. These tests are a "check-up" on student learning to help teachers assess where a student is and the progress that needs to be made to reach grade level goals. Mr. Ellis explained how, why and when assessments are given to each grade level.

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Students in grades 3-5 also take the Georgia Milestones Assessments in the spring. This test measures progress on the Georgia Standards of Excellence. Parents will receive more information about Georgia Milestones during the FAST meeting on March 22.

Title I Documents/School Goals/School Improvement Plan

Some important documents on the school website that parents should be aware of:

- Annual Meeting Information
- Georgia Standards of Excellence
- Student Testing in Georgia
- How to Communicate with Your Child's Teacher
- School Improvement Plan
- Components of a Schoolwide Plan

Parents are encouraged to review the School Improvement Plan which is always on the school website. It includes school goals and the strategies the school will use to meet those goals. Mr. Ellis also reviewed during the PAC presentation the School Improvement Plan. Mr. Ellis encouraged parents to share input with him about the plan. Parents were also able to leave input about the School Improvement Plan on the meeting feedback form (*see WOOD FALL PAC Feedback*).

Building Staff Capacity

Woodstation would like to ask parents to think about what the school can do to better meet the needs of families. There was an opportunity to leave suggestions on the feedback form at the end of the meeting (*See WOOD FALL PAC Feedback*).

DAC Information/Representatives

Woodstation needs DAC representatives this year. Parents who are interested were asked to let Mitzi Mew know by indicating interest on the meeting feedback form or by contacting her at (706) 935-6700.

Feedback/Contact Information

Meeting participants were asked to complete the meeting feedback form with suggestions and input. Contact information for Mitzi and also for Mr. Ellis is listed below. Parents are encouraged to contact the school with questions.

Mr. Ernie Ellis, Principal
706-935-6700

Mitzi Mew, Family Engagement Coordinator
mmew.wes@catoosa.k12.ga.us
706-935-6700