

WESTGLADES MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL ADVISORY FORUM (“SAF”)		April 21, 2017	
		8:45 am	
		11000 Holmberg Road, Parkland, FL 33076	
Attendance: T. Allison; B. Berken-Zaslav; M. Bianchi; L. Caracuel; A. Cook; A. De La Rosa; D. Gaines; C. Hylton; C. James; J. La Rosa; B. McKenna; J. Montalto; J. Wolfe			
SAF Co-designee (J. Wolfe and T. Allison) welcomed all. The Minutes of the March 17, 2017 meeting were reviewed and approved.			
<b>MINUTES</b>			
<b>Agenda:</b>	Westglades Middle Ticket To Safety	<b>Presenter:</b>	M. Bianchi
<b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Bianchi completed the modifications to the previously presented “Ticket To Safety”, which outlines the theme – Be Patient; Be Attentive; Be Pro-Active; Be Careful; and Be Safe. After some discussion, the consensus among the SAF Participants was to postpone the launch of the Ticket to Safety for the fall in order to avoid confusion or push back this late in the current school year. Note: the purpose and intent of the Ticket to Safety is to initiate behavior changes in parents in order to improve the car line experience for all stakeholders.</li> </ul>			
<b>Agenda:</b>	Coral Ridge Cross Walks	<b>Presenter:</b>	M. Bianchi
<b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Bianchi provided an update on his initial conversations with both representatives from the City of Parkland and the City of Coral Springs. The existing Crossing Guards, located on Holmberg Road at the traffic circle, are provided by the City of Parkland under an agreement with the City of Coral Springs. A similar agreement may be needed to accommodate additional Crossing Guards on Coral Ridge Drive. Mr. Bianchi agreed to continue to pursue both municipalities in order to address safety issues that were previously raised by SAF Participants regarding students crossing Coral Ridge Drive in route to and from WMS.</li> <li>Conversation among SAF Participants included a suggestion that WMS partner with Stoneman Douglas on this issue as students from both schools are impacted by safety issues at these intersections on a regular basis.</li> </ul>			
<b>Agenda:</b>	Security Office   Central Point of Entry	<b>Presenter:</b>	M. Bianchi
<b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Bianchi reported that additional dialogue with representatives from Broward Schools / Facilities Division was productive in identifying issues previously raised by WMS Staff and SAF Participants. Improvements that are being discussed include (i) expansion of the space and reconfiguration of the floor plan for the room; (ii) addition of auto lock doors with “buzzer” access to enter the office as well as to enter the interior hallway; (iii) relocation and re-installation of the panic button – which will be moved to the desk for the purpose of alerting designated school personnel in the event of a problem; (iv) additional seating for visitors and guests; (v) storage to accommodate the growing amount of items being dropped off by parents for student pick-up; and (vi) enhanced display area to</li> </ul>			

showcase WMS achievements and provide a more welcoming atmosphere for visitors.

- The plan is to have the improvements completed prior to the start of the 2017/2018 school year with the objective of improving the level of security and efficiency of the Security Office as the Central Point of Entry for WMS.

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<b>Agenda:</b>	Student Backpack – Weight & Impact	<b>Presenter:</b>	M. Bianchi
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**Discussion:**

- Mr. Bianchi provided an update to SAF Participants and confirmed that he did raise the issue with faculty and staff prior to spring break. Several SAF Participants voiced concern and some frustration that no change in behavior or backpack content requirements was exhibited or communicated by students. Several parents stated that conversation was initiated during spring break to reduce or eliminate contents without success. Mr. Bianchi agreed to re-visit the issue with the faculty and staff. Again, SAF participants suggested alternative binder resources to reduce weight.
- The SAF Participant consensus is (i) teachers should remind students on a regular and consistent basis exactly what is needed in the backpack and to reinforce the ongoing removal of nonessential items in order to reduce the weight; (ii) students need to be reminded to remove and store old materials and remove clutter from their backpack-several parents reported that their child launches a panic attack when parents attempt to remove old materials and clutter from the backpack.

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<b>Agenda:</b>	West Gate   Bus Loop Security	<b>Presenter:</b>	L. Caracuel
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**Discussion:**

- The issue of unrestricted access to the parking lot area and buss loop located on the western side of the WMS campus was raised based on observations from SAF Participants. Typically, this gate is locked during the school day and unlocked in the afternoon to accommodate the arrival of school busses. While there is usually a BSA vehicle parked at the gate in the morning, there does not appear to be much monitoring of vehicles that elect to enter the campus through the unlocked gate in the afternoon. It was reported that in specific circumstances, parents have been approved to use the west gate access to accommodate students with special needs. In other instances, parents have been observed using the west gate access to avoid the car line and traffic on the east side of the campus. There is no central point of entry for the western perimeter of the campus. Mr. Bianchi is going to follow up on this matter with staff and will provide an update at the next SAF meeting.

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Meeting Adjourned @ 9:15 AM

Respectfully submitted by:	J. Wolfe
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