

West Briar Middle School SDMC Meeting

Date: 10/23/2024

Time: 6:00pm -7:00pm

Location: Principal's Conference Room

Team Norms:

- Be Punctual (start and end on time)
- Engage in the learning (socially, emotionally and intellectually)
- Be solution oriented (keep this a safe place for learning, always respond to the topic)
- Be prepared (maximize time)
- Reserve Questions for Q and A session unless directly aligned to the topic



Name	Title	Att.	Name	Title	Att.
Crystal Blanchard	Principal	✓	Jeff Turner	Staff	✓
DeWayne McCurdy	Asst. Principal		Kara Bemis	Parent	✓
Oliver Blaine	Teacher		Amanda Hellman	Parent	✓
Ceaser Crawford	Teacher		Zak Miller	Business Professional Energy Corridor District	
Bevin Holloway	Teacher		Nathan Smith	Parent/Community Member	✓

Agenda Items	ACTION STEPS/NOTES
Introductions 5 mins	<p>Presentation Shared at 6:03pm</p> <p>https://www.canva.com/design/DAGUZxCLmnU/-Zxtnq3wSi9YbUU8j_2htw/edit?utm_content=DAGUZxCLmnU&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton</p> <p>Review Norms Member Check in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present at the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crystal Blanchard ○ DeWayne McCurdy ○ Bevin Holloway ○ Jeff Turner ○ Kara Bemis ○ Amanda Hellman ○ Nathan Smith
Data 5 minutes	<p>Review Campus/District Data and next steps</p> <p>Ms. Blanchard reviewed the campus data in comparison to district and state performance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The campus meets percentages are as follows: 27% in Math, 50% in Reading, 41% in Science, and 43% in Social Studies. ○ It was noted that the campus outperformed both the state and district averages in Science and Social Studies, which was a point of celebration. ○ Ms. Blanchard highlighted areas for improvement, particularly in Math, where the campus scored 9 percentage points below the district average. ○ Ms. Hellman pointed out that the campus experienced a decline in performance during the 2023-2024 school year.
Attendance 5 mins	<p>Share current attendance data and discuss 90% rule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Blanchard reported that last year's attendance rate was 94.4%.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She shared the campus goal of reaching 95.5% attendance by May 2025. • For Cycle 1, overall attendance was recorded at 94.8%, while Cycle 2 showed an improvement, reaching 96.3%. • Ms. Bemis inquired about the reasoning behind separating the 6th-grade attendance data from the 7th and 8th grades. • Ms. Blanchard responded that she would look into the reason for this separation and provided information about the TEA's 90% rule, which requires students to be present for at least 90% of each class period to avoid attendance appeals. • Mr. Smith suggested announcing to students the importance of avoiding appointments and absences, particularly during the 2nd period.
<p>Dress code 10 mins</p>	<p>Review current dress code Discuss parent feedback Vote on keeping the current dress code vs making changes to the dress code</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Blanchard shared that the main concerns from parents include the color of the bottoms, as many females are in a transitional period, as well as their durability against food, dirt, etc. Parents also suggested adding more jean days and adjusting the length requirements for skirts to accommodate varying heights and sizes. • She noted that the administration prefers the limited color options and limited jean days because it helps reduce the number of dress code violations that keep students out of class. • Ms. Bemis added that last year's team observed that students seemed more focused when wearing khakis rather than more relaxed jeans. • Ms. Blanchard then allowed each team member to share their thoughts on the dress code: • Ms. Hellman suggested adding a dark-colored bottom to the dress code. She liked the current two jean days and would consider removing skirts, though she recognized that many girls enjoy wearing them. • Ms. Bemis also supported adding a dark bottom. She was open to allowing jeans daily, with some restrictions, and mentioned that her daughter enjoys wearing skirts. She agreed with revising the wording on skirt guidelines. • Mr. Smith supported adding a dark bottom but raised concerns about allowing jeans daily, as this could highlight socioeconomic differences among students. He also mentioned that having different guidelines based on individual body shapes could lead to perceptions of discrimination. • Mr. Turner agreed with adding a dark bottom option and was open to jeans daily. He also saw the need to modify the skirt language in the dress code. • Dr. McCurdy supported the addition of a dark bottom but wanted to keep the current policy on jeans. As a parent of a daughter with long legs, he acknowledged the challenge of finding skirts that fit the current policy. • Ms. Scott agreed with adding a dark bottom and was flexible regarding the frequency of jean days. She appreciated Mr. Smith's comments about enforcing the "open" skirt policy. • Mr. Holloway supported keeping jeans for Wednesdays with college shirts and Fridays with spirit shirts. He didn't mind allowing jeans daily since "free dress" is what the school is incentivizing. He also recommended adding navy blue bottoms along with khakis and preferred knee-length skirts or skorts. <p>Following further discussion, the team approved the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add navy blue and black to the existing dress code. • Continue allowing jeans on Wednesdays and Fridays. • Revise the skirt guidelines to recommend lengths no more than 3 inches above the knee, while allowing administrators discretion to address any skirts deemed too short or tight to maintain a professional school environment.
<p>Sports Teams/Stipends 10 mins</p>	<p>Review current allowed sports teams/stipends Discuss parent feedback for baseball/softball</p>

	<p>Vote on next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Blanchard announced that the district has approved the continuation of softball and baseball for this year, although there is a possibility that this may be the final year for these programs. • She also mentioned that a stipend will be provided for one baseball coach and one softball coach. • The team quickly voted in favor of continuing both sports this year and agreed to inform students early on that these programs may not be available next year.
<p>Questions and Answers 15 mins</p>	<p>Team will be allowed to ask questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Hellman asked about the restroom policy, the doors on the boys restroom stalls, the Kroger and McDonald fights before and after school, inquired about the staff restroom, if the tip line was still open and the faucets and asked if I can provide a statement • Ms. Bemis asked about staff dress code, consistency with IDs, provisions for students traveling across the building in the 4 minutes, vacuuming the theater, exterminating around the campus due to the number of insects and allowing NJHS and Student Council to clean the campus for community service hours • Mr. Smith asked about the number of fights and if had been reduced • Ms. Blanchard followed up and stated that teachers have autonomy to give additional permission to use the restroom if there is an emergency. The passes were created to provide structure for teachers to ensure instructional time is sacred. Ms. Blanchard stated that she will have Mr. Chacon to walk the building and let her know what repairs are needed. The fights have been reduced at Krogers and McDonalds because Ms. Blanchard and Dr. McCurdy rides the golf cart to the McDonalds and Krogers after school. Ms. Blanchard stated that the tip line is still open. I will submit a statement that will be shared with the parents and community regarding the baseball program. Ms. Blanchard is going to remind the staff about dress code and implement a morning announcement regarding IDs in 1st period. We will allow students that are traveling from across the building “grace” to get to their class. Ms. Blanchard will follow up with dance teacher about the release time. Ms. Blanchard shared that the campus has a vacuum, but needs to purchase additional bags. Ms. Blanchard shared that the building has been exterminated, but will ask Mr. Chacon to put in a new request. Ms. Blanchard approved for the NJHS and student council to clean the campus for community service hours. Ms. Blanchard assured Mr. Smith that the number of fights had decreased.
<p>Meeting Concluded</p>	<p>The meeting ended at 7:34am</p>