



Tilden Middle School

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Tilden PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday March 10, 2026 virtual meeting, 42 were present.

The meeting was called to order by Tilden PTSA President Cynthia Neil at 7:02 PM.

1. A presentation was given by Michael Sauer about the Middle College program at Northwest High School, describing the process of application and criteria for acceptance into the program. Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.75, provide a writing sample and be responsible for turning in assignments on time. For more information on the program contact [Michael T Sauter@mcps.org](mailto:Michael.T.Sauter@mcps.org)

At 7:26pm Dr. Hopkins provided a synopsis of upcoming events.

At 7:32pm the minutes of the January Meeting were summarized by the secretary, Jennifer Kwan. Mickie Chandra made a motion to approve the minutes, Saran Diobate seconded the motion. The minutes were put to vote and approved unanimously.

Principal Morgan of Walter Johnson High school provided a discussion of the transition of the APEX Reach program to the Advanced Placement Capstone Program. Assistant Principals Rachel Maturana and Marjorie Cohen were introduced to provide additional information. The new AP Capstone diploma is a nationally recognized program that requires Honors English in grade 9 and AP English in 10th. The AP Capstone diploma is a 2 year program developed by the College Board, 2 courses AP seminar and AP research are unique to the program. Walter Johnson offers 39 AP courses. A request was made to assemble questions regarding the programs at WJ so that they can be added to a website to share the responses and information. Principal Morgan is taking care of our Tilden kids as some teachers at WJ will be cross trained and ready to move to Woodward.

At 8:06 Saran Diobate provided the Treasure's report as a powerpoint presentation describing lower PTSA membership dues than prior years.

At 8:06 Dorigen Hoffman, the WJ Cluster Coordinator described the advocacy for the schools in the cluster, including the Boundary Study. Woodward High School is still slated to open in 2027 and all

Tilden students, except for those in special programs, will be articulated. There was a discussion about how the maps shifted from the presented options and now WJ will have a much lower utilization rate than surrounding schools. Cluster leaders have been pushing for information on Woodward programming from MCPS academic central office. The AP Capstone program will be at Woodward, and it is unclear what AP classes will be offered at this time. In the current planning the principal will be hired in July. There is advocacy for the hiring of a high-level counselor alongside the planned athletics director to facilitate students as they make their elective decisions in the year prior to their start at Woodward. The Program analysis will define special programs; Woodward is anticipated to be a performing arts magnet and have Middle College and Data Science / AI STEM programs that students from all schools in the region can apply to.

At 8:31 Cynthia Neil provided a list of upcoming events:

- Bingo Night and Silent Auction to support the 8th grade Promotion
- Staff Appreciation week
- Spring Book Fair
- Skate Night
- PTSA elections at May meeting

Move to adjourn Jennifer Kwan, second Saran Diobate. Meeting concluded at 8:42pm.