



Wellness Policy Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2025

Present: Marianne Thole, Lauren Moore, Elizabeth Werner, Christine Mehlhorn, Rita Thorson,, Nicole Dockham, Joanne Karetov, Anna Tiffany, Terri Smith, Andrew Sachariason, Jenn Fuchs

Absent: Jessica Skilling, Susan Schultz, Medora Benson, Willa Lovett, Claire North, Robin Moore, Alec Brandt, Kelly Gutierrez

Rita/Marianne – No Child Left Inside Grant MN DNR - \$5K for the installation of a Frisbee golf course along Discovery Trail. The course is finished and reimbursement paperwork has been submitted. Additional money was used from the Wellness Fund to complete the course installation. Anna is working with Chad to get a score card made with yardage and hole location. Also putting together a procedures sheet for anyone interested in bringing a class out to use the course. Will put into the PE budget to purchase 2 portable holes for practice. Looking for help from the Scout troops for signage and tee boxes - TBD

Rita/Marianne/Terri - Sustainability and Recycling Grant through Washington County - \$13,830. To purchase new recycling/trash containers for outside of the gym, new recycle/trash containers for outside (atrium doors to the courtyard and/or by the field), green recycle cans for batteries (located in each division work room), a work table with storage cubbies for MS and US. To be used as a work table and also a storage area for unused school supplies. Estimated delivery date is over MEA. Part of this grant requirement is to get more information to staff on our efforts at school. Rita put together a slide deck for all staff to watch in Frontline, educating staff on what we should be recycling. Marianne will stop into each division meeting in October to give a high level overview of what is happening at Prep. Reuse bin for clothing is expected soon. Communication will go out when it has arrived. Andrew has a can recycling trailer that he wants to bring closer to the building - he will talk to Bill.

Nicole – There is still money remaining from the last year **Change to Chill** grant and it will be used to purchase additional fidgets for each division office. Youth Frontiers will come to do a retreat for 7th grade (January) with the help of upper school students on COURAGE. No grant funding was received for this, but Nicole is working with Jenn on funding.

Marianne - MN Farm to School Institute – June 2025 – Marianne, Joey K, Nicole C and Natalie Y attended this in June at the Arboretum. The goal is to get more information into the classroom on where food comes from with virtual field trips, projects, garden



outings, etc...This will be a great learning experience for us to bring back to each division. Planned activities will happen for Buddy days. Potential to get Jessica from **Ag in the Classroom** to come out and do a 30 minute presentation on resources available and easy lessons to enhance what is already being taught in the classroom. (Waiting on confirmation date).

The hope is that we can give students more information about where their food comes from and that this information will be an enhancement to the classroom activities, not additional work for the teachers.

Marianne - **Full Tray Grant** - working on this currently and it is due October 23rd.

Elizabeth - **Garden** - No grants received to date. Elizabeth will make contact with Miller Excavating to ask for a partnership or if they are interested in helping with this project. Parent Group is another avenue for funding, but it was suggested to have specific items that are needed and the projects should be student led. It was brought up how the garden aligns with classical education and the consensus was: service and community.

If anyone gets information on Grants, please forward to the group with the hope that someone will be interested in applying.

Meeting dates moving forward:

November 10th

February 2nd

May 4th

All in the WW Conference room at 8:30 am

Marianne will update the 25/26 Action Plan with the agreed upon goals and notify when posted..

Staff update is the place to look for any information on grants and wellness.