



## KENMORE WEST MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

### I. Welcome

### II. Report:

#### A. Counseling Department update - Kim Sedita

<https://www.ktufsd.org/domain/249>

- Held a career expo for the first time - had community representatives (HVAC, National Fuel, TOT Parks & Recreation, Howard Hanna, Department of Environmental Conservation, Northland, plumber) and are planning to expand and use Corrective Gym with 20 representatives
- Department works with area colleges (ECC, Niagara University, Buffalo State etc.) to provide instant admission for students - the students meet with representatives in the building for an interview and help with application process - way to help students who didn't apply or were unsure, forgot or were afraid of the process
- college admissions process begins in October/November of senior year
- <https://www.ktufsd.org/Page/2461>
- Second year of their mentoring program and seeing the benefits: currently groups are smaller with 14 mentors for 25 students - students are chosen by specific criteria such as poor grades, poor attendance, no peer connections - hoping to expand the program with more mentors so can help more students
- Scheduling is still going on - will be finalized and uploaded to the portal by the beginning of July so any problems can be fixed by the end of July
- Next year will have a therapy dog, "Jet", in the building since they noticed a significant, positive impact when he visited this year - they are working on his schedule, locations and any allergy/fear issues
- Next year Counseling Department will have a conference room and calming area for utilization by groups and students (athletic department gave us their space)
- Next year will have another counselor
- Next year will have full time behavioral specialist (person who helps identify when, why, how behaviors are happening) who will help the department write specific behavior plans for those that are experiencing challenges - hiring is not through the District but a contractor
- This summer counselors will be meeting with 7th grade counselors to find out about incoming 8th graders so they are aware of needs and what they will have to put in place

### III. Administration Report: Denise Grandits

- West Fest was a rousing success; kids, faculty and staff had a great time so they are trying to see what they can do for the Fall to increase the momentum of bonding and positive school experience

- Priorities for next year will be truancy and behavior - further flush out causes and positive solutions
- Plan on establishing student expectations at the beginning of the school year
- Counselors will now follow students from 8th grade until graduation, they will not switch once 8th grade is over - will incorporate some of the practices used by 8th grade counselors in 8th grade seminar
- 8th grade orientation will be held at the end of August with link leaders
- Administration will be reaching out to at risk students this summer so not starting in September back at square one

#### IV. **Miscellaneous:**

- 2022-2023 Student Council leaders attended and introduced themselves
- Had a discussion of phone use by students/faculty/staff in the building
  - Parent and student input
  - One idea: going forward would like consistency throughout the building with modeling by all for proper use

#### V. **HSA Updates:**

<https://www.ktufsd.org/domain/235>

- 2022-2023 Board position voting:
  - President: Rebecca Kiel
  - Secretary: Corinne Heltz
  - Treasurer: Sara Opalka-Satchidanand
- 2022-2023 Meeting Dates: meetings will be at **6:30** in the KW Library
  - Tuesday, September 27th
  - Wednesday, November 2nd
  - Thursday, January 12th
  - Tuesday, March 21st
  - Thursday, April 13th
  - Wednesday, May 10th

Any questions, concerns, suggestions - email us at [kenwesthsa@gmail.com](mailto:kenwesthsa@gmail.com)

Visit our page on the KenTon District website <https://www.ktufsd.org/domain/235>

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