

WCS Parent Meeting Update

11/09/07

Dear Parents: At our recent Parent Meeting we promised to keep you informed about future changes at WCS. Here is a status report. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. – Bill Williams

1. WCS will retain outside experts to conduct a thorough review of the school's hiring practices, staff evaluations, grievance procedures, harassment policies, and any other area that the agency believes to be appropriate.

Update: We are in the process of obtaining proposals and terms of engagement and should have one or more firms formally retained within the next 10 days. Those contacted do not have connections with the Grace Brethren Church of Columbus or Worthington Christian Schools.

2. Implementation of guidelines to clearly govern what is appropriate faculty-student relationships.

Update: A Faculty-Student Committee, made up of five WCS parents, three high school students, seven faculty members (various grade levels) and two administrators, has been established and will hold their first meeting on 11/26.

3. Background checks on faculty and staff:

Update: In addition to requiring that all teachers and administrators obtain background checks, ALL school employees including coaches, office staff, food service employees, etc. are now required by WCS to obtain a background check. Presently, more than 90% of these have been submitted and to date, none have come back with any criminal record of any kind. We will continue this process until all school employees have complied..

4. Appointment of two faculty ombudsmen, one male and one female, to whom students will be able to report concerns /incidents in a safe confidential manner.

Update: We have identified both a male and female faculty ombudsmen and will soon provide the appropriate training necessary for them to fulfill their new responsibilities.

5. We will immediately begin to operate under the, "WCS will not hire nor continue to employ anyone who has admitted to, or been convicted of, sexual misconduct toward a student", rule.

Update: WCS is presently operating under the above stated policy, and as part of the review/evaluation with the consultants in item one, a formal policy will be adopted by the WCS Advisory Team.