



WALTER JOHNSON BOOSTER CLUB

6400 Rock Spring Drive, Bethesda MD 20817

www.wjboosterclub.org

Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2026

1. Funding Requests

LFI Program – \$250

Representatives presented a request for support for the ALO Prom at Gaithersburg High School. Funds will support student participation in this annual event.

Motion: Approved unanimously.

DECA – \$3,144

Student representatives presented a funding request to support registration fees for state and international DECA conferences, including participation costs for 42 students attending states and three students confirmed for the international conference. Students shared highlights from prior international competition participation and described DECA's leadership development and networking opportunities. Members also noted DECA student support of Booster fundraising efforts, including the book and mulch sales.

Motion: Approved unanimously.

Math Honor Society – \$1,000

Math Honor Society students presented a proposal for a large-scale geometric installation in the courtyard featuring Platonic and Archimedean solids, inspired in part by mathematician John Conway's polyhedral pathways. Funds will support materials for the student-built sculpture installation planned for April 23. Students described the project's educational and artistic value, connections to existing school murals, and collaboration with the math department.

Motion: Approved unanimously.

Robotics – \$543.20

Board considered an additional request for Robotics expenses beyond the amount previously approved in the fall. Members noted the original proposal contemplated the higher amount, but only a lower amount had formally been voted.

Motion: Approved additional \$543.20 unanimously.

2. Reports

Athletics Director Report – Larry Hurd

- Spring athletics participation exceeded 560 student tryouts, the highest in school history and among the highest participation rates in the county.

- Athletic programs continue strong competitive success, including recent state championships in swimming and indoor track.
- Student-athletes currently maintain a 3.5 overall GPA average, surpassing the athletic department goal.
- Basketball floor replacement and baseball-related facilities improvements have been delayed another year due to county approval and procurement constraints.
- Spring sports teams are receiving approved team shirts.
- Mulch sale volunteer recruitment remains strong, with optimism for another successful event.
- Larry will be supporting state basketball tournament events this weekend.

Administration Report – Terry Heintze

- Staffing allocations for next year remain under review due to county enrollment projections; administration is advocating for restored positions based on anticipated enrollment.
- SAT testing and state assessments are underway, with modified schedules in place.
- A parent safety and security information session is scheduled for March 17 with county safety office participation.
- Administration emphasized continued collaboration around school safety protocols and communication.

3. Committee Reports

Used Book Sale

Natalie Shelton reported a highly successful book sale:

- Over 2,000 shoppers attended.
- Estimated gross revenue of approximately \$29,109, with net proceeds projected just under \$26,000 after expenses.
- One remaining payment from Wonder Books is pending.
- Volunteers unloaded over 800 boxes during setup, with strong student participation.
- Unsold books were donated, including a large donation supporting schools in Liberia.

Board members expressed appreciation to Natalie, Anna, and volunteers for organizing a successful event.

Mulch Sale

Mary Bittle Koenick reported preparations are underway for the upcoming mulch sale, with volunteer participation again expected to be strong.

Other Committee Reports

Brief updates were shared regarding concessions, school store, sponsorships/banners, website, and sports/clubs commissioner efforts. Newsletter chair remains open.

4. New Business

Nominating Committee: Discussion began on appointing a nominating committee for the 2026–27 Booster Club slate.

Open Positions: Members reviewed several leadership vacancies for next year, including:

- Booster Club President
- Mulch Sale Chair
- Appreciation Chair
- Newsletter Chair

Importance of recruiting co-chairs from both North Bethesda and Tilden communities was emphasized.

5. Funding Motions & Votes

DECA – \$3,144

Motion: Cheryl Hines. 2nd: Anna Park. Approved unanimously (16 yays).

Math Honor Society – \$1,000

Motion: Becky Sher. 2nd: Joe Robinson. Approved unanimously (16 yays).

LFI Program – \$250

Motion: Sara Williams. 2nd: Dawn Harris. Approved unanimously (16 yays)

Robotics – \$543.20

Motion: Sarah Allison. 2nd: Cheryl Hines. Approved unanimously (16 yays)

6. Announcements

- Mulch Sale: March 13–14
- Next Booster Club Meeting: April 8, 2026, 7:00 PM