

**Minutes from May 9, 2023 Parent meeting**  
(Minutes taken by Lei Chen)

Westwood Debate and Speech Booster Meeting: 05/09/2023 6:30-7:45pm

**Attendees:**

~20+ parents/guardians attended the meeting, Attendees include current booster executive board: Sree, Ms. Welsch, Ellen, Jonie, Lei, Gayathri.

Newly elected board of directors and executive board members attended: Gunjan, Tonia, Meena, Jason Shone, Chris Gong, Kalpana, Richa, Amin;

Other parents in attendance: parent of Charlie Hui, Iris Chen, Michelle Li, Siyona Jain, Warren, Devak Jannu

Students present: Tori, Sean, Iris Chen, Kate Peckham.

Regrets: Anand, Amit, Sunny etc.

Agenda:

1. The booster bylaw is outdated and needs to be fully updated. Attendees **unanimously approved** 2 bylaw changes below, in relation to Booster Executive Board, and Booster Board of Directors positions. Other bylaw changes will be handled by the 2023-2024 Booster board.



## Bylaws Amendments – Sec 5.01

OFFICERS

Section 5.01

### **Executive Officers and Their Election.**

The executive officers of this Organization shall be President, Treasurer, Secretary-Parliamentarian, Vice President of Communications, Vice President of Corporate Relations, IT Director(s), and the Westwood Director of Debate and Speech (the teacher).



## Bylaws Amendments – Sec 9.03

Section 9.03 **Membership.** The Board of Directors shall consist of the Westwood Director of Speech and Debate (the teacher), the Executive Board Officers of the Booster (named in Section 5.01), and Committee Chairs as follows: Finance Manager 1, Invoice Manager 2, Tournament Logistics Coordinator 1, Tournament Logistics Coordinator 2, Parent Judge Coordinator(s), Hired Judge Coordinator(s), Co-Chairs of UIL/TFA (to include Committee Chair, Hospitality Chair, Concessions Chair), and DeBanquet Chair, ad hoc committee chairs.

2. Attendees **unanimously approved** the 2023-2024 Booster Executive Board.

Booster Executive Board (7) Voting		Position	Proposed Slate		
	1	Director of Debate & Speech			
	2	President	Gunjan Misra	GR11	CX
	3	VP Communications	Tonyia Cone		
	4	Secretary/ Parliamentarian	Anand Rajagopalan		
	5	VP Corporate Relations	Meena Patyal	GR10	PF
	6	IT Director	Chris Gong / Kalpana Jayaraman		
	7	Treasurer	Ujjval Dave	GR9	CX

3. Attendees **unanimously approved** the 2023-2024 Booster Board of Directors which include all executive members above, plus the expanded committee chairs below.

Committee Chairs		Position	Proposed Slate	GR	Ext
	8	Finance Manager 1	Suhan Li	GR11	Extemp
	9	Finance Manager 2	Elizabeth Peckham	GR11	Extemp
	10	Tournament Coordinator 1	Jason Shone		
	11	Tournament Coordinator 2	Mohammed Amin		
	12	Parent Judge coordinator	Lei Chen / Josh Hebert	GR11	CX
	13	Hired Judge coordinator	Priya Balaraman / Richa Tripathi		
	14	UIL/TFA Committee Chair	Mrinalini Gaddamedi		
	15	UIL/TFA Hospitality			
	16	UIL/TFA Concessions	Sunny (Dongping) Xu		
	17	Debanquet Chair	Sunny (Dongping) Xu	GR10	Extemp
	18	Ad Hoc tasks (e.g. spiritwear)	Jonie Huang, Priya Girinathan		

4. Ms. Welsch gave a summary of the Debate Program success for 2022-2023 school year, the Westwood team: We have had 20 students across various debate streams qualify for the Tournament of Champions this year, 40 students qualified for the Texas TFA, and 40+ entries in the UT debate tournament. We won the TFA CX championship and got into elimination rounds of TOC. Many of our seniors got into good universities and debate helped their college applications.
5. Tori gave an update on the student election that just completed. All debate students voted. Each ballot is weighted based on the voting students years of debate experience; whether qualified for national tournaments such as TFA, TOC, NDCA; and whether volunteered in Westwood hosted UIL/TFA. Votes are non-anonymous as the weight of the ballot need to be calculated, however, only Joon, Tori, Ms. Welsch went through the ballot and calculated the votes.
6. Sree highlighted that 2022-2023 school year, most of the debate tournaments are in-person, with higher registration fee, travel expenses and judging expenses.
7. New executive board members introduced themselves. Ellen explained that as our website (<https://www.westwooddebate.com/home>) needs lots of work, we have 2-IT directors for this school year.
8. Gayrthri gave an overview of the corporate sponsorship accomplishment this year, we received \$28k in total corporate matching fund, which is a record year for the Booster club.
9. Lei promoted parent judge volunteer activity for the new school year, we should have parent judge training /parent kick-off meeting when the fall semester start, hope everyone will volunteer to be parent judges.
10. Ellen gave DeBanquet update. May 9th was the last day to signup.
11. It is not too late to pay for booster dues. The dues are spent on tournament registration fee, judging fees, etc.