



2011-2012 WHECTY BOARD Information

Please note that there are NEW procedures this year – read carefully!

This year, WHECTY will NOT hold traditional elections. The current WHECTY Board has passed a resolution to try a new system for creating our 2011-2012 WHECTY Board. The goal of this new system is to create a more positive experience for everyone involved and to create the best team of individuals to work together for WHECTY in the upcoming year. No system is perfect but we want to give this a shot to see if it's better than what we've done previously.

Any current 8-11 grader who is interested in being on the WHECTY Board for the upcoming year must submit an "Elections Form" (included in this packet). This form should be taken seriously and responses should be well thought out. You will have the opportunity to list which of the available positions you are interested in holding. **The WHECTY Elections Form is due no later than May 4th.**

On **Saturday, May 7** a special WHECTY Elections Meeting will be held at the home of Lucy Goldberg (current WHECTY President) from 6:30 – 10:30 p.m. Lucy's address is 9510 Persimmon Tree Road, Potomac. Dinner will be served from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. The elections meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and following this meeting there will be a social event and bonfire! During this meeting, any and all candidates are invited to "introduce" themselves to the members who are present and share their reasons and interest for being part of the WHECTY Board. You will have up to 3 minutes to talk a little about yourself, your interest in being on board, and the position(s) you wish to be considered for. You will only speak once regardless of how many positions you list on your form.

From May 7-May 10 WHECTY members will have the opportunity to submit feedback about candidates. This will be done privately using an online survey site. While the information will be kept confidential those submitting feedback must include their name and contact info. Anonymous feedback will not be considered.

An Elections Committee, made up of graduating board seniors and WHC staff, will convene to consider all of the applicants for WHECTY Board and all of the feedback that has been submitted. Taking all of this information, along with their own experiences with WHECTY and the individuals involved, the Elections Committee will match candidates with positions in order to come up with the 2011-2012 WHECTY Board.

On a designated date (yet to be determined), candidates will be contacted and asked to accept a specific position. Once all board members have accepted their positions the new board will be complete and announced to the general membership.

The wonderful part about this system is that the members of the youth group no longer have to vote on their friends which has caused a lot of hurt feelings in the past. The reality that still remains is that there are only so many positions on the WHECTY Board and we usually have a lot of people who are interested in being involved. **There will be people who will be disappointed and potentially even upset that they do not receive the highest position they had expressed an interest in. Please understand that this is simply the down side of having a leadership structure and having so many wonderful and capable students who want to be involved.**

The work of the Elections Committee must remain confidential and the members cannot and will not answer questions about why one person was selected over another. If you cannot handle the disappointment of not getting your top choice position then it may be in your best interest to choose not to be on WHECTY Board and you can simply be involved in other ways.

I have always said that one of my big problems with elections in youth group is that we spend the whole year trying to be a warm and welcoming place where everyone is loved and accepted, and then in one night of elections we tear it all apart by having to pick “favorites.” This new procedure is designed to reduce this effect but it cannot totally eliminate it.

Parents, please understand that the Elections Committee will do the best they can but your child may not get the position on WHECTY Board that they ‘really, really’ wanted. Please help us and your child by letting them know that sometimes that’s just how things go and they can work hard and try to get a higher position for the following year.

If you have any questions please contact me as soon as possible so I can answer questions. This is a new procedure and there will be some “kinks” to work out.

I can be reached at imiller@whctemple.org or 301-354-3209.

Thank you!

Ira Miller

Director of Informal Education

The following positions are available for the 2011-2012 WHECTY Board (see additional page with position descriptions)

Executive Board:

President

Programming VP

Social Action VP

Religious & Cultural VP

Membership VP

New Member VP

Communication VP

General Board:

Post Confirmation (11th/12th grade) Representatives (up to 3 positions available)

Confirmation Representatives (up to 3 positions available)

Freshman Representatives (up to 4 positions available)

Historian (up to 2 positions available)

Club 56 Liaison (up to 2 positions available)

ETY Liaison (up to 2 positions available)

(The Elections Committee reserves the right to shift the number of positions available in order to maintain a strong board. For example, if only 2 people express interest in Post Confirmation Representative an additional Freshman Representative could be appointed).

1. You must be a WHECTY member to run for board (except current 8th graders who will need to join WHECTY in 9th grade). All WHECTY Board Members must be members of Washington Hebrew Congregation.
2. Candidates must be entering 9-12 grades in the 2011-2012 school year. Each candidate must complete and sign the Election's Form and have a parent/guardian sign it. **The Election's Form must be turned in no later than May 4th.**
3. You are encouraged to list any position for which you are interested (and eligible). The fewer positions you list the fewer options the Elections Committee has and the less likely you are to end up on board

Additional leadership opportunities are available for board OR non-board members in 2011-2012 including:

*Dance 4 A Cause Co-chairs

*Clash of the Classes Co-chairs

*Purim Lock-in and Purim Carnival Co-chairs

(information on these opportunities will be available after the board selection process is complete)

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact **Ira Miller**, Director of Informal Education at 301-354-3209 / imiller@whctemple.org, **Rabbi Shankman** at 202-362-7100/sshankman@whctemple.org or WHECTY President **Lucy Goldberg** (Lucy.Goldberg.2011@holton-arms.edu).



2011-2012 WHECTY Board Position Descriptions

All board members are expected to attend a monthly WHECTY Board Meeting to help plan upcoming events. WHECTY Board Meetings are usually held the first Monday of the month with dinner starting at 6:00 and the meeting from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. (meetings rotate between our two buildings). Dinner is provided by rotating groups of WHECTY Board parents (all parents will be asked to help once during the year). **All board members are also expected to do their best to be at all WHECTY events.**

Responsibilities of Officers - Executive Board

***President:**

- Oversee all WHECTY programs and activities.
- Represent WHECTY and the youth of Washington Hebrew Congregation to the greater WHC community, to NFTY-MAR, and the community at large.
- Preside over meetings of the WHECTY Board.
- Participate in the Washington Hebrew Congregation youth committee.
- Responsible for the execution of all the laws of the Organization.
- To help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- Responsible for creating and/or dissolving Cabinet Committees as necessary
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

***Programming Vice President:**

- Plan and implement all WHECTY social and educational programming including opening event, and programs of all size throughout the year.
- Serves as the President if the President is absent or should have to resign.
- To help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- Oversee the programming committee.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

***Social Action Vice President**

- Implement WHECTY social action programs.
- Seek out new social action projects for WHECTY.
- Incorporate social action projects into regular WHECTY events.
- To help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- Oversee the Social Action Committee.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

***Religious and Cultural Vice President**

- Plan and implement all WHECTY religious and cultural programs including Israel programming.
- Compile and lead WHECTY services.
- Seek out religious and cultural opportunities for WHECTY.
- To cooperate with non-Jewish and interfaith organizations in building understanding and good will among all youth.
- To help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- Oversee the Religious and Cultural Committee.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

***Membership Vice President**

- Recruit new members into WHECTY and help retain current members.
- To contact all Washington Hebrew Congregation youth that are eligible for membership in WHECTY.
- To promote upcoming events.
- To oversee the Membership/ Sunshine Committee.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

***New Member Vice President**

- Recruit new members into WHECTY
- Plan special events for new members.
- Integrate new members into WHECTY and NFTY-MAR
- To promote upcoming events.
- To create a special Sunshine committee just for new members
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

***Communication Vice President**

- Keep a written record of WHECTY business.
- Keep members updated on recent and upcoming events.
- To create and email a regular WHECTY newsletter (w/ Historian(s)).
- Develop and carry out fundraising opportunities for WHECTY.
- Shall assist with collection of funds at programs.
- Work with the Historian(s) to develop creative ways to promote and market WHECTY
- Oversee committee to create WHECTY merchandise
- To help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

General Board

Post Confirmation Representative (three positions)

- Get Washington Hebrew Congregation 11th and 12th graders to attend WHECTY events.
- Create special opportunities specifically for WHC 11th and 12th graders
- Encourage 11th and 12th graders to become WHECTY members and stay active in life at WHC
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

Confirmation Representative (three positions)

- Get 10th graders to attend WHECTY programs and events.
- Hand out fliers at confirmation classes and events.
- Help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

Freshman Representative (four positions)

- Get 9th graders to attend WHECTY programs and events.
- Hand out fliers at class and other 9th grade events.
- Help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

Historian (two positions)

- Record WHECTY's programming year and present it in a creative fashion at the end of the programming year.
- Work with the Communication Vice President to create a WHECTY newsletter and develop new ways to market WHECTY
- Take pictures and/or video at all WHECTY events and creatively share those images with the membership.
- To help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

Club 56 liaison (two positions)

- Serve as Junior staff for Club 56 events in order to help build a connection between Club 56 and WHECTY
- To help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

ETY liaison (two positions)

- Serve as Junior staff for ETY events in order to help build a connection between ETY and WHECTY
- To help recruit new members and promote upcoming events.
- To attend as many WHECTY and NFTY-MAR events and functions as possible.

****We highly encourage board members and WHECTYites in general to participate in NFTY-MAR events. We realize that this is not always possible but have included it to emphasize its importance. Do not feel that you shouldn't run for WHECTY board simply because you are unable to attend NFTY-MAR events.**

It is recommended that you contact the person who currently holds the position you are considering running for to find out exactly what the job is, time commitment, responsibilities, etc. For the name, phone and e-mail of a current board member contact Ira Miller at 301-354-3209 or imiller@whctemple.org

2011-2012 WHECTY Elections Form (Please print or type!)
Due no later than May 4th!



Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please list (in order of your interest) the positions on WHECTY Board that you would be willing to accept if offered to you. You may list as few as 1 and as many as you are eligible for (please do not list positions that you are not eligible for (for example if you will be a 10th grader do not list Freshman Rep or Post Confirmation Rep).

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

4th Choice _____

5th Choice _____

Please use an **additional piece of paper** to explain why you would like to be on WHECTY Board, what positions you are most interested in and why, including why you think you would be good for that position(s) and what you think you can bring to the WHECTY Board in general.

Please read and sign:

I wish to be considered for the position(s) listed above. I understand that being part of WHECTY board is a responsibility and I am willing to undertake this commitment. If selected, I will work hard to make WHECTY the best it can be and to do the best job I am capable of. If I am not selected, I promise to remain an active part of WHECTY and do my part to make WHECTY the best it can be. I also understand that WHECTY is just a youth group and that school, family, etc. often must come first. I will do my best to meet the expectations that my parent(s) and I have for me in everything that I do.

Candidate's signature

Date

Parent/Guardian please read and sign: I acknowledge and support my child's desire to be part of the 2011-2012 WHECTY board. I will do my part to support their involvement in WHECTY in whatever way that is required. I understand that WHECTY parents, in groups of 3 or 4, are asked once during the year provide dinner for a WHECTY Board meeting. I further understand that my child may not receive the position they were most interested in and I will support the decision of the Elections Committee and help my child deal with their disappointment.

Parent/Guardian signature

Date