**Jane Addams PTSA**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, September 9, 2019 at 7pm in the Library**

1. **Welcome/Introductions**
2. **Approve minutes from August 26 Board meeting**  
   Board members met for a casual meeting, but there were no minutes.

* **Teacher Katie Cassidy Funds Request and Presentation**8th Grade Social Studies project that will start rolling out next week around Native Resistance and Agency. Focuses on how we can better study the histories and current realities of Native people, especially the Duwamish. Objectives are around understanding systems of oppression, challenging the dominant native, and giving students the agency to show inquiry around challenging the dominant native through visual presentations in JAMS hallways and beyond. Team would like to present a film screening to the community with the financial help of PTSA. Award winning 2016 documentary *Promised Land* with themes of tribal sovereignty would ideally be screened the first week of November, with panel including the film producers and the Chinook tribal community. This would be the only screening in Seattle this fall. K-12 license is $250. The auditorium can seat 1000 people.  
  Money can come out of Academic Enrichment line item without a vote, but present board members enthusiastically supports spending the money on it. There’s a line item for academic enrichment which has $10k, and would be well spent on this. Requests against this line item are made to the PTSA through the building admin.

1. **Committee Reports**
   * **Treasurer’s report**, Beth Sharlin
     1. Bank accounts had $88K at the end of the fiscal year, $20k up from that time last year. $24k is restricted in JAMS Dream Big. Some recurring donations continued to come in during summer.
     2. There’s about $13k surplus that should be spent.
        + The building requests an increase for school supplies by about $1400 to cover actual costs for teachers and specialists and nurses, etc.
        + Proposed increase of $4000 to help fund the cost of sending 8th graders to camp. The more the PTSA can kick in the less families can expect to pay, and possibly fund more scholarships. In the past any shortfall between what families are able to contribute and the actual cost is covered by building funds.
        + Proposed increase of $1100 to 6th field trip to cover missed expenses last year.
        + Windermere grant came in at $1500 for the backpack program, grocery gift cards and hygiene products for families in need. We’d requested and budgeted $2500. Beth proposes keeping the budget line at $2500 to support that program.
        + **Friendly Vang-Johnson makes a motion to approve Beth’s proposed budget amendments. Motion is seconded and passed unanimously by board members present.**
   * **PTSA Membership,** Julie Bisson
     1. WSPTSA migrated the membership software, including the online membership process for all local units. JAMS PTSA new online membership registration process is now live, but it is cumbersome. Paper membership forms have already gone out and many have already come in with checks. Julie will have the link to the online form updated online. We did have the membership form translated by a generous volunteer, and Julie now has a resource list of different professional translators in the area. She will reach out for quotes.
   * **Communications update,** Julie Bradley and Jill O’Connor
     1. E-newsletter goes out every Friday in the school session. Submissions go to [*newsletter@jamsptsa.org*](mailto:newsletter@jamsptsa.org)by Tuesday at 7pm. Julie has a goal of getting more content from the building. There’s a request to put the traffic pattern map in the newsletter.
     2. Website submissions can go to Jill, which has rolling deadlines.
   * **Community Outreach,** Friendly Vang-Johnson
     1. Friendly hosted an event over the summer. Friendly is working to draft a resolution on equity and inclusion at JAMS for the next board meeting.
     2. Keep sending inquiries and interests on engagement and inclusion to Friendly.
   * **Annual Give update,** Robin Goodman
     1. We’ll have to adjust the advisory participation challenge, since there’s no advisory period this year. Robin is open to new motivation incentives. We’ll again go Oct 1-31 and try to have a tie-in at the Curriculum breakfast.
   * **Landscaping update,** Colleen Weinstein
     1. 14 volunteers came to repaint the Jaguar over the summer. There’s enough paint left over for another repainting next year (permit and street closure expenses will still need to be covered). This is Colleen’s last year at JAMS, so hoping for someone to take it on.
     2. Day of Caring is Friday 9/13 from 9 am to 2 pm. Microsoft volunteers will be coming to work on various projects around the school exterior. Colleen is still looking for a couple more parent volunteers to help guide the volunteer projects.
     3. Exercise loop: There was one community meeting over the summer, another scheduled for October to present the final design. It will be a mile in length around school, with ADA-accessible portions. Meeting attendees’ time will count towards the match. There isn’t money yet for construction, so they’ll be working with businesses and other grant sources to raise the $300k needed to build the loop.
     4. Most recent BEX levy gave us $3.6mil for site improvements on the south side of the school, student entrance and staff parking lot. This does not include the staircase improvements planned to mitigate the “slippery slope” which would cost about $200k. Colleen is hoping to fundraise $100k, and that the city will raise its matching grant program back up to $100k (it’s currently down to $25k)
   * **Volunteer update,** Sherene Ottosen
     1. Contact Sherene if you have a need for volunteers
     2. Curriculum breakfast is for families and students. Paula will look into Nutrition Services providing a light breakfast for the PTSA meeting and building introductions. No volunteers needed
     3. Paula would love parent volunteers during lunchtime
     4. Avid tutors are still needed
     5. We do need a traffic chair.
     6. Does the PTSA keep running smaller events like BINGO night or STEAM fair, or put more support behind building events which have more staff and student energy?
2. **Ongoing Business**
   * **None**
3. **New Business**
   * **New VP Christina Ellis,** Maggie Sweeney
     1. Maggie is nominating Christina to the position which was vacated after the elections in the spring. Christina will fill that position in the interim until the October general meeting
     2. **Julie Bradley makes a motion that we present Christina as Vice President to the general membership in October. Motion is seconded and passed by all board members present.**
4. **Principal’s Report,** Paula Montgomery
   * 8th graders have an 11am lunch (10:30 on Wednesdays). By custodial contract food isn’t allowed in the rooms, but students seem to have adjusted to having a snack in passing periods. There are healthy snacks available to anyone who asks in the office. With this size school, the only safe option is to have 3 lunch periods. Lunch is 40 minutes bell to bell.
   * JAMS is very full, and is anticipating a budget adjustment upward. 990 students were predicted. Paula predicts more help coming for special ed. There may also be additional classified staff. Admin had anticipated higher numbers and planned according, so classroom adjustments probably won’t need to be made. Increased budgeting will probably go towards things like supplies which were shorted in the original budget
   * 388 6th graders, making it the largest class. The District may come in and physically split some of the classrooms (they already have 2 sets of doors and are larger than other classrooms) to make more classrooms.
   * After school programming will start in October. Madeline Benz is leading this effort.
   * Leadership teacher, Ms Olivas, is developing a leadership program and calendar.
   * New Security Officer, Miss Bear.
   * New assistant principal, Mr. Booker working with 8th graders.
   * Counselors are working on monthly classroom-based lessons. It will be an SEL program, but not based on any specific curriculum, since the team feels no single approach fits the JAMS population.
   * New Head Custodian. Some locker combinations were lost in the custodial transition, but largely got resolved over the first weekend.
   * Teachers are loving the integration of the social studies between General Education and HCC students in classes. The LA department has noticed that there’s less “tracking” among the students. There will be student surveys to see how this is going.
   * There’s an extra 20 minutes built into 3rd period on Wednesdays to go over things that would previously have been taken care of during advisory.
   * There are about 85 ELL students, making up about 8% of the population with about 200 ELL-exited (students who have previously received ELL services)

Meeting adjourned at 9:10.