**Jane Addams PTSA**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Library**

**Meeting Began at: 7:10pm**

1. Approve minutes from December 9, 2019 Board meeting
   1. Do not have to ‘approve’ if no changes or revisions
   2. No changes - approved
2. Committee Reports
   1. Decision to Cluster/Blend Language Arts (Maggie Sweeney/Paula Montgomery, 30 minutes)
      1. Language Arts Teacher Presentation – Mr. Kirshman and Mr. Herbison
      2. Proposing the possibility of getting a waiver for next year to integrate our students in order to reach a more socially just school community; however, no process or clarity on how to move forward from the school district
      3. If the waiver is granted for next year:
         1. 6th grade will be integrated
         2. Undecided for 7th and 8th grade at this time
      4. JAMS is a pathway school for the Highly Capable identified students
      5. What HCC is – a tracking program; the district has no guidelines around what HCC is or is not; there is no HCC curriculum, but it is site-based with a scope and sequence
      6. Rationale:
         1. Research and SPS data shows that our current model of segregating students does more harm than good.
         2. We believe we are prepared to differentiate our instruction to meet the academic needs of all students within the same classroom environment.
         3. HCC identified student would be equitably ‘clustered’ across all classes, averaging around 10 per class.
         4. We are also committed to the development of ‘soft skills’ that all students need to become a more positive and supportive member of a community which can be better achieved in a more heterogeneous, diverse setting.
      7. Language Arts Department
         1. Professional development for last five years
         2. Skill development more than content
         3. Literacy consultant – meet monthly
         4. Goals for each teacher
         5. 100% buy-in from all teachers in the department to move in this direction
      8. Social Studies Department
         1. Mr. Barnes, social studies teacher
         2. Focusing on student talk and student voice this year
         3. Have seen large successes with the change in program
   2. HCC Advisory Committee (Christina Ellis, 20 minutes)
      1. HCC Task Force that made recommendations on how to move forward with HCC; that Task Force was dismantled, and a new Advisory Committee was formed
      2. Christina is our JAMS HCC representative
      3. First meeting for the new Advisory Committee was last week
      4. The theme of the meeting was dismantling the HCC Program
      5. It appears that the program will look very different in the future
      6. Discussed the option of honors classes as well as a pilot program
      7. Committee meets monthly - next meeting is March 3, 2020
   3. Communications update (Julie Bradley and Jill O’Connor, 5 minutes)
      1. A lot of hits on the website today, possibly due to today’s board meeting agenda
   4. Landscaping update (Colleen Weinstein, 5 minutes)
      1. Need to set a date for Environmental Stewardship Day – Proposing May 2nd, 10:00am-2:00pm
      2. During the week of Staff Appreciation Day – Magna Cum Latte serving beverages to staff on May 7th from 7:30am-9:30am
      3. Learning Garden Network – every spring a day-long event where speakers come to talk about everything gardens – on Saturday, March 7th
      4. Conservation Specialist at the district has asked if we’d like to be the cedar growth compost center for the northend – proposed for late May; Paula approved
   5. Afterschool Program for Black/African-American Students (Friendly Vang-Johnson, 5 minutes) – NEXT MEETING
   6. Awards Committee (Julie Bradley, 5 minutes)
      1. Need to form a committee soon
      2. Not much effort
      3. Recognition for staff members and volunteers
   7. Treasurer’s Report (Maggie Sweeney, 5 minutes)
      1. As of January 31st, we have $146,764 in total assets (money in the bank and in our PayPal account). $23,234 is restricted funds for JAMS Dream Big.
      2. Our net income through the end of January is $132,536. All donors to the annual fund and dream big campaign last year should have received a receipt for their donations in their email unless their email was not provided and a paper copy was sent out.
      3. Our expenses through Jan. were $68,061. We have spent 42% of our budget so far this year and all item have been within budget. In January, we gave the school $4,000 grant to support the 6th grade field trip to the UW Engineering Discovery Days and $4,000 grant for the 7th grade field trip to the Wing Luke Museum.
      4. We do have a line item for supporting afterschool programs. The budget is $7,500. We spent $3,309 so far and have $4,191 remaining. If we decide to support an afterschool program for Black/African American students, we could use this line item.  The school/Paula is responsible for spending that line and I think most of the funds are already earmarked for existing programs. We’ll need to check with them on it. We could vote to increase the budget for afterschool programs if needed.
      5. We will need to start to think about preparing next year’s PTSA budget soon, sometime in March or April.  Could you ask if anyone is interested in helping with preparing the budget and serving on a budget committee?
      6. Finally, Sanjay was asking about having an Amazon wish list for the school through the PTSA. We don’t currently have one but I have been exploring our account and I can easily set one up if we would like to do one!
3. New Business
   1. None
4. Principal’s Report
   1. Advisory
      1. Missing advisory so added additional time on Monday mornings to form community
      2. Cannot bring back advisory due to teacher contracts
      3. Skill development is lacking
      4. Eckstein has a ‘homeroom’ that does not violate their contract; we are currently emulating this with increasing time to Period 1 on Monday mornings
      5. Using ‘The Advisory Group’ for lessons
      6. The counseling department is also providing monthly classes – ‘Random Acts of Kindness’
      7. No increase in bullying; there has actually been a decrease in bullying and/or fights
      8. 6th graders came in with mean behavior which they are mediating and discussing
      9. Specific incidents or issues with children, contact the grade level administrator

**Meeting Adjourned at: 9:14pm**