

ATTENDEES:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aisha Reuler ● Elizabeth Leber ● Laura Riley ● Janice White (Guest) ● Kalan Guiley ● Michelle Young ● Oma McGloughlan ● Rachel Roufa ● Shera Lynn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Madeline Benz (Vice Prin.) ● Paula Montgomery (Principal) ● Sarah Taylor (SpEd Dept Chair) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anahita Atashi (Community) ● Beth Sharlin (Fundraising) ● Christi Schwend (Asst Treasurer) ● Christina Ellis (President) ● Jane Demel (Treasurer) ● Richard Newman (Secretary)* ● Sheila Nath (Vice President) ● Tahera Kapasi (Vice Principal) ● Tatiana Kaminski (Comms)
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**Recorder of these minutes.*

***A few additional members who joined online may not have had their name recorded above.*

OPEN: Christina E. opened the meeting at 7:04p.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Read aloud by Christina E.

SPS SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESENTATION

- Seattle Special Education PTSA member Janice White, guest speaker for the evening, introduced her background and presented a newly created 24-page guide for parents of students with special needs.
- Guide to Special Education in Seattle Public Schools:
 - The goal of the guide was to demystify SpEd support available to students.
 - Janice walked attendees through the guide, page-by-page.
 - The guide includes various tools, such a ‘Student Introduction’ to help introduce students’ needs to their teachers.
 - The guide will not be considered ‘live’ until print copies are available; expected late October; the guide will be translated into 9 languages.
- The presentation of the guide was followed by Q&A, which touched on the following topics:
 - Role of educational advocates,
 - Persistence/renewal of a 504 plan, and
 - Access to support for writing.
- Janice then gave an overview of the SPS SpEd Task Force:
 - Established as part of the last collective bargaining agreement; charged w/making proposals to inform the next collective bargaining agreement.

- Members include district reps, principals, union reps (teachers & instruction assistants), and community reps.
- Although it has existed for a while, it has not met regularly throughout its existence.
- Particular focus on racial disparities; higher percentage of students of color currently assigned to more 'restrictive' pathways.
- SpEd Task Force had not been meeting as previously stipulated.
- PTSA started advocating a year ago, included community reps; 4 to 5 community reps appointed.
- While WA state is ranked 44th among states for integration of students with special needs into standard instruction, JAMS itself has adopted more inclusionary practices.

JAMS STAFF SPECIAL EDUCATION PRESENTATION

- JAMS SpEd Dept Chair, Sarah Taylor, provided an overview of JAMS SpEd programs.
- At JAMS, 170 students have IEPs; most qualify for reading or writing support.
- Sarah provided an overview of programs and corresponding staff.
- The presentation was followed by Q&A.
 - Sarah described how co-teaching is conducted at JAMS.
 - Sarah explained differences between an IEP & 504.
 - Sarah explained differences between teachers & instructional assistants.
 - Ms. Montgomery described 'intersectionality' to address needs spanning special education, multilingual households, and students with advanced capabilities.

BOARD BUSINESS:

- Annual Give Fundraiser:
 - Beth Sharlin announced plans for a kickoff on Curriculum Night (Oct 13).
 - Will span a month.
 - Goal of raising \$83k.
- Treasurer's report:
 - Jane walked attendees through PTSA's finances.
 - Income of \$85,560.
 - Expenses of \$129,800.
 - Greatest expense: Math tutors & IXL access.
- Election of Board Secretary:
 - Christina explained need to nominate & vote for Board Secretary.
 - Parent Laura Riley nominated acting Secretary Richard Newman, VP Sheilah Nath seconded the nomination.
 - Attendees all voted in favor (no abstentions, no declines).
 - Richard voted in as Board Secretary.

ADJOURN: 8:15p.