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**FINAL MINUTES**

Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, November 9, 2017

Our Savior Lutheran Church

9:40am-12:00pm

***Call to Order***

Call to order 9:43 a.m. 38 people signed in; 21 of 24 schools were represented. Proper meeting notice was given. **Quorum Present.**

***Guest Speaker – Martin Turnee, Issaquah School District***

**Levy**

Martin confirmed that the District is running a levy in February 2018. The state has capped the amount we can levy as a district to the less of $1.50/$1,000 or property value or $2,500/student. It looks like ISD is proposing a 2-year EP&O levy with a lower rate/$1,000 than the maximum levy opportunity. The levy could provide greater opportunities for items such as increased mental health counselling and support, 7 period day at all high schools, and elementary dual language programs.

**Safety**

Additional video cameras are being installed at schools as an added safety measure, and electronic key locks are being installed at the final group of schools. ISD is trying to outfit all schools with a vestibule so all visitors will be funneled into the school office. The District is close to completing a standardized emergency plan.

***President’s Report*** *– Becky Gordon and Leslie Kahler*

* Liberty HS PTSA was thanked for hosting One-Love workshop, and ParentWiser was thanked for organizing the i-Rules event.
* The Council Committee sign-up sheet was passed around.
* *PTA and the Principal* will be held on Thursday, November 16th. L. Michelle and Moriah Banasick from the district office will speak from 11:45 to 12:45, and all principals, including secondary principals, are welcome to attend this part of the meeting. Elementary Local Unit Presidents will join the Elementary Principals for the second part of the meeting from 12:45 to 1:15.
* There is a new username and password for the Washington State PTA Leadership Guides. New username is “Every” and new password is “Child”.
* Executive Limitation 16 regarding equity will be discussed at the School Board meeting on Monday, November 27th. A first read of Executive Limitation 16 will be given at this meeting. The School Board will engage with community groups before conducting a second read of Executive Limitation 16. A copy of Executive Limitation 16 can be found on the School Board website.
* The Mailchimp calendar will no longer be maintained. With Peachjar and the PowerPoint presentations, there is a lot of redundancy, so Mailchimp calendar is no longer needed.
* There will be no General Membership meeting in December. There may be a training opportunity if there is enough interest/need form Local Units.
* Echo Glen, a juvenile detention facility, offers many volunteer opportunities. Please refer to their website <http://www.smilepower.org/Echo_Glen_Children_s_Ctr.html> for a list of volunteer opportunities. They also have a wish list of needed items that can be found at <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/V0FZYMV60E87/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1>
* Open Council positions were announced; Membership, Advocacy, co-Reflections chair.

**Consent Agenda –** *Becky Gordon*

Consent Agenda was presented.

**MOTION: Ina Ghangurde motioned to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded; motion carries.**

**Secretary** – *Erin Thacker*

No Report.

**Treasurer’s Report** – *Erin Eaton*

October 2017 Treasurer’s Report was included on the Consent Agenda, and will be filed as presented. Beginning balance $14,669.17; ending balance $31,521.17. Council dues were due on October 31st. Taxes are due on November 15th. Insurance expires on November 30th. Local Units can download their renewal certificate online once payment has been made and their renewal has been processed. Korista Smith-Barney, Wendy Shah and Laila Collins are the Financial Review Committee members.

**Nominating Committee Election –** *Becky Gordon*

Laila Collins

Wendy Shah

Valerie Yanni

The nominating committee was announced, and there were no nominations from the floor. Nominating committee was elected as presented. (A sign-up sheet was passed around, and Laurelle Graves volunteered to be part of the nominating committee, but was not officially elected. She will be formally elected at the January 11th General Membership Meeting.)

**VIS –** *Dawn Peschek*

The levy is taking time to put together, with legislators for our region concerned ISD is asking for too much. There will be a community information night on Thursday, January 11th. The location has not been set, but will be in the Issaquah Highlands. Postcards for Local Units to mail out will be available for pick-up at January’s General Membership Meeting. If a Local Unit doesn’t have a VIS representative, VIS will help label the postcards, but the Local Unit will need to take them to the post office for mailing. VIS is working on an information sheet for Local Units to share with their membership, along with a list of do’s and don’ts for promoting the levy. It looks like there will be a 1-year transportation levy, a 4-year tech levy, and a 2-year EP&O levy (formerly M&O levy). Another EP&O levy will need to be run in 2020, so please forward VIS donations if you haven’t already done so.

**Notecards/Questions** – *Becky Gordon*

Notecards have been left with the sign-in sheet so Local Unit Presidents can write any questions or concerns they may have. These will either be discussed as a big group or will be given to the appropriate Vice President to discuss with their Local Unit Presidents.

**Best Practices –** *Korista Smith-Barney*

Korista Smith-Barney reviewed the Best Practices Checklist for November and December. Local Units should have their Nominating Committees in place by the end of January. Now is a good time to start collecting the information needed for the Standards of Excellence. Local Units may want to start promoting the *“Men’s Making a Difference”* essay contest for students.

**Membership** – *Becky Gordon*

Membership is currently an open position on the Council board. Now is a good time to promote winter campaigns for Standards of Excellence.

**Advocacy** – *Becky Gordon*

There was low attendance at Legislative Assembly this year. Delegates adopted resolutions on:

* Mental Health Needs for Children
* Trauma Informed Care
* Increasing Access and Affordability of Post-secondary/Higher Education Degrees and Certificates
* LGBTQ+ Inclusion

The 2018 Legislative Platform also supports:

* Addressing the Teacher Shortage
* Best Practices for School Meal Policies
* Career Connected Learning, CTE & Stem
* Dual Credit Equality & Support
* Equity for Highly Capable
* Preventing and Mitigating the Impacts of Gender-based Violence
* School Construction and Class Size Reduction

**Committee Reports**

**Art in Schools** – *Laurelle Graves*

There will be a glass fusing training on Friday, November 17th from 12-2:30 and on Wednesday, November 29th from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm at the Hailstone Feed Store.

**FACE –** *Ina Ghangurde*

There are two handouts for Local Unit Presidents to take with them. One is a job description of the F.A.C.E. liaison position, and the other handout is a letter that Local Unit F.A.C.E. liaisons can give to families new to their schools.

**Healthy Youth Initiative –** *Becky Gordon*

*The Power of Me, The Power of We* youth summit will be held on Saturday, November 11th at Pacific Cascade Middle School from 9:00am to 4:00pm. High school students will receive volunteer hours to help facilitate break-out sessions and mentor middle school students.

**Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF)** – *Valerie Yanni*

The application window for Kateri Brow and Classroom Enrichment Grants is now open. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, January 10th. Grant applications are only accepted online. The judging rubric and Grant Writing Workshop presentation can be viewed on the ISF website. If you are interested in being a VOICE mentor, please email [voice@isfdn.org](mailto:voice@isfdn.org). There are currently over 300 VOICE mentors in the district. *Dining for Kids* will be at Chinoise Sushi Bar and Asian Grill in the Issaquah Highlands on Wednesday, December 6th for both lunch and dinner. *Dining for Kids* takes place the first Wednesday of every month.

**Outreach** *– Kim Weiss*

The *Turkey Trot* will take place on Thursday, November 23rd at 9:00 am. Registration is online, and volunteers are needed. The Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank Holiday Gift Barn will be open for donor drop off on Monday and Tuesday, December 4th and 5th. Family pick up form the Holiday Gift Barn will be on Wednesday and Thursday, December 6th and 7th. Volunteers are needed. *Lunch for the Break* donor drop off will be on Monday, December 18th from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm, with family pick up on Thursday, December 19th from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Please register your donations to assist with planning.

**Outreach Guest Speaker –** *Rebecca Rice*

Local Units were thanked for their support of the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank. A flyer for the Holiday Gift Barn will be posted on Peachjar to reach out to families who have participated in the past. Registration links will be noted on the flyer. They are most in need of items for children between the ages of 9 to 18. Gift cards, beauty products, sports team items and clothes are good for this age range.

**ParentWiser** – *Heidi Fuhs*

Heidi thanked the schools that helped at the i-Rules event, and all schools who have paid their *ParentWiser* dues. Local Unit Presidents were told to take their table tents to display in their school lobby or other central location. *ParentWiser* events can be noted as a benefit of PTSA membership and upcoming *ParentWiser* events should be mentioned at Local Unit General Membership Meetings. Heidi asked that Local Units copy and paste *ParentWiser* communications for their School and PTSA e-News to avoid any errors or omissions. Please forward any parent names/emails collected for *ParentWiser subscriptions* at Back-to-School check-in to [parentwiser@issaquahptsa.org](mailto:parentwiser@issaquahptsa.org).

**Reflections –** *Leah Gibson*

Turn-in date is Monday, November 20th from 10:00am to 12:00pm at the Issaquah Library. If you are unable to make this turn-in time, please contact Leah to make alternate arrangements. Invitations to the district Reflections reception will be given the Reflections Chairs during turn-in. Art that was displayed at the University of Washington over the summer was given to Local Unit Presidents to take back to their school, and Leah will email the parents to let them know their child’s artwork has been returned and is in the school office.

**STAR/Special Ed** *– Carrie Hipsher*

Carrie wants to identify a special ed liaison from each school, preferably someone who has a student with an IEP or 504. She asked that Local Units share the Club Inclusive Facebook posts with their school communities. There is an upcoming parent training opportunity on Monday, December 4th at Issaquah Middle School from 6:30 to 8:00.

**District Updates**

**Issaquah Education Association (IEA) President, Doug Jones**

Teachers are gearing up to support the levy, and are excited about the opportunities the levy may provide. Although the state is offering more education dollars, there are still big gaps in funding, and local levy dollars help fill these gaps. Local resources are needed to help keep ISD completive with other districts in terms of compensation. Teachers are fearful of the new funding and salary schedule that the State is building.

**Ron Thiele** *– Issaquah School District Superintendent*

There are currently three curriculum adoption processes taking place:

1. Middle School Social Emotional Learning curriculum.

Received *Second Step Middle School Social Emotional Learning.* This will go through the instructional materials committee and put on public display before going to the School Board for adoption. Teacher trainings would start in the spring/summer with implementation in the fall.

1. High School Math; Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 Adoption

The adoption committee evaluated 5 curriculum programs, and voted to adopt enVision. This curriculum will be reviewed by the instructional materials committee and put on public display before going to the School Board for adoption.

1. Elementary Social Studies

The Adoption Committee is writing its own units that will embed strategies into the curriculum that are aligned with Common Core standards. Units are active learning on-line systems that include virtual reality, storyline simulations, and kits from Burke Museum.

**Property Acquisition**

ISD purchased the 5150 building, and this will act as the new Administration Building. The 2016 bond provided funds to renovate the current Administration Building, however, it still wasn’t going to be large enough current and future growth. The current Administration site will be used for the new Middle School #6. Occupancy of the new Administration Building could start as early as April 2018, and be fully occupied by the start of the 2018/2019 school year.

The School Board voted to enter into a purchase and sale agreement for three joined parcels of land in Sammamish. These parcels total about 11 acres and are all owned by the Volpe family, who is interested in selling the land. This is a likely option for Elementary #16, and would be a more compact design.

ISD is in talks with the City of Issaquah to do due diligence on the property in the Issaquah Highlands as this property has now been zoned as viable for a school. If all goes well, this will be the site for Elementary School #17.

The School Board took imminent domain of City Church property. A historical designation was implemented by the Issaquah Landmarks Commission, and City Church filed a lawsuit against the City of Issaquah and King County. A settlement was reached between all parties, and the negotiations for purchase are moving forward. This is a possible site for High School #5, as well as a banked piece of property for Elementary #18.

ISD hopes that all property will be secured by fall 2018. Once the new locations are decided, the District can start looking at redrawing school boundaries. The earliest any of the new sites will be opened is September 2020.

**Levy**

Due to the amount of uncertainty regarding funding from the State, a 2-year EP&O levy will be run. Taxes are already high, and ISD needs to be conscientious in how much is being asked for in the levy. They are looking at a package that would lower local taxes in an effort to offset the increase in State taxes.

**New Business –**

None.

Meeting adjourned: 11:53 am

Submitted by:

Erin Thacker

Secretary, Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6