

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:51 a.m. 39 people signed in. 22 of 24 schools were represented. Proper meeting notice was given. **Quorum Present.**

President's Welcome and Report—*Erin Eaton*

Erin Eaton welcomed everyone.

Consent Agenda—*Erin Eaton*

The Consent Agenda included the following documents:

- November 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes
- November 2019 Financial Report
- December 2019 Financial Report
- January 2020 Financial Report

Erin Eaton asked for corrections or comments. Corrections to the minutes were submitted.

MOTION 1 Tracie Jones moved to accept the consent agenda. The motion received a second, was voted on, and carried.

Business

Treasurer Laila Collins noted that the mid-year financial review needs to get done. A budget committee is needed. The budget will be approved at the May General Membership Meeting.

Secretary Sara Carmichael will compile the Council Attendance report and email to Presidents by Monday, February 17.

Vice Presidents—*Leslie Kahler, Joana Figueiredo, Noreen Awan, Nicole Morgan*

Best Practices Noreen Awan highlighted some of the February Best Practices, including the following items: ensure the Treasurer gives a January financial report, recognize volunteers on a regular basis, WSPTA award applications are due March 1, PTA Men's Essay Contest entries are due March 1, attend the Region 2 mid-winter conference on February 25 at the Lake Washington district location, and consider having a presence at school open houses/registration. Refer to the complete Best Practices list posted on the Council website under Meeting Documents.

Training Erin Eaton spoke about the Region 2 Conference, billed as a Listening Tour. Region leaders want to hear from local PTAs/PTSAs about their needs. There will also be some training classes. The Region 2 event will be February 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Lake Washington School District building in Redmond Town Center. Nominating Committee training is available February 25 at Lake Washington and March 2 on Mercer Island. Only five people from Issaquah responded about wanting in-person Nominating Committee training. Contact Leslie Kahler for more information. The state website has online training and a booklet for nominating committees.

Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Advocacy Kristen Slocum—No report.

Art Laurelle Graves—No report.

FACE Alicia Spinner—No report.

Membership Valerie Yanni noted that the Membership report is posted on the Meeting Documents page. As a district, PTA/PTSA membership is down by 5% from last year's numbers, which were down by 10-15%. Included in the report are year-end numbers and a breakdown by school. If you feel the numbers are not accurate, contact support on the WSPTA website. Print and keep the report in the Membership supplies. Valerie thanked and shared her appreciation for the Membership Chairs and encouraged presidents to recognize the efforts and express the importance of the Membership Chair at the General Membership meetings. Applications for state Membership Awards are due March 1. Links to related information are included in Valerie's report. Leadership News announced a membership contest for February 1 through 14.

Outreach Darci Hanley & Tracie Jones—Tracie Jones reported that PCMS won the Clash of the Cans Middle school competition. She also shared thanks for the schools who contributed to Lunch for the Break.

ParentWiser Heidi Fuhs—Upcoming ParentWiser events include Help! My Teen is Dating on February 27 at IHS, and Upstanders on March 25, also @IHS. Details are available on the ParentWiser website. Heidi gave a shout out to Sunset and Grand Ridge for doubling their donation to ParentWiser. She also emphasized the importance of having a Parent Ed rep on the local rosters. The roll of Parent Ed reps is in part to support ParentWiser by attending at least one event and volunteering at an event. Heidi recognized Apollo, Grand Ridge, Maywood, IHS, and Cascade Ridge for having active Parent Ed reps.

STAR/Special Education Erin introduced Freya Thoreson, who joined the committee with a focus on dyslexia. There is a new law coming into effect regarding dyslexia. Freya will provide more information at the March Council meeting.

Webmaster/Directory Cindy Kelm—No report.

Ad Hoc Committees

Influence the Choice Katie Moeller—Katie spoke about the 8th annual video contest organized by Influence the Choice. Middle and high school students are encouraged to enter and create a video based on one of three prompts that reinforce positive community norms. Katie asked that presidents at middle and high school push the flyer out through Peachjar and other communication channels. Submission deadline is March 27. Judging will be April 7 at the Issaquah City Hall Eagle Room beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Issaquah Schools Foundation —No report.

Reflections Leah Gibson & Kristen Allen-Bentsen—No report.

Safety Leslie Kahler & Laurelle Graves—No report.

VIS Dawn Peschek—Dawn Peschek has been sending timely communications to the presidents regarding the levy. An email on February 4 included messaging and graphics to use on social media and communications, a request to remind the parent communities to vote, information about the February 10 Honk & Wave, and a reminder to put the VIS window clings on your car. A February 7 email asked presidents to share a Your Vote Matters post on the VIS Facebook page, sign up for the February 10 Honk & Waves, and post an eNews "Have you Voted" graphic with Levy facts.

Council Committees—Erin Eaton

Erin noted that there are several Council committees that need members. She created a Signupgenius for people to join. The Nominating Committee and Financial Review Committee must be filled during this meeting.

Nominating Committee Carla Geraci, Freya Thoreson, Noreen Awan agreed to be on the Nominating Committee.

MOTION 2 Laurelle Graves moved to approve Carla Geraci, Freya Thoreson, and Noreen Awan as members of the Nominating Committee. The motion received a second, was voted on, and carried.

Financial Review Committee Dawn Peschek, Nicole Morgan, and Heather Heiter agreed to serve on the Financial Review Committee.

OurSchoolPages Replacement Research Committee Members of this committee are working independently to evaluate possible replacement systems for OurSchoolPages. They are adding their findings to a Google document. Erin will have the committee provide a report at the March 12 meeting. Webmasters will be invited to the meeting.

Guest Speaker—Carolyn Kennedy, Director of Programs, Issaquah Schools Foundation

Issaquah Schools Foundation representatives and volunteers presented 23 grants in 12 buildings on January 31. Carolyn wants to understand if and how local PTAs/PTSAs award grants. She will aggregate the information she collects and share it. The Foundation is trying to get a handle on who funds what in the district.

The Nourish Every Mind Spring lunch and breakfast are coming up. Both events will be held at Eastridge Church, which allows up to 600 attendees. The lunch has usually accommodated up to 800 people, so they need some people to switch to the breakfast to balance attendance. Trisha Marshall is getting the table captains set up.

The Foundation is working with ParentWiser on the upcoming events featuring Mike Domitrz. He will speak at four assemblies at each of the three comprehensive high schools and give a presentation to parents (Help! My Teen is Dating!) at IHS on February 27, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Register on ParentWiser website.

Issaquah Schools Foundation awards two Impact scholarships. The scholarships are available to juniors and seniors. The application can be found on isfdn.com and is due February 21.

Guest Speaker—Dawn Wallace, Director of Teaching and Learning, Issaquah School District

Dawn Wallace discussed the districts plans to incorporate art into the elementary curriculum and support the PTA/PTSA Art Docent Program. The Art Docent/Artistic Support program will be transitioning to the district. A new hire will be brought in to support both the district art and the art docent program. PTAs/PTSAs will still operate the Art Docent program. The District is still learning and working out details.

District Updates—Ron Thiele, ISD Superintendent

Superintendent Ron Thiele was pleased to announce that the Levy passed with 63% in favor and thanked VIS and PTA/PTSA for working toward a successful levy.

A boundary review committee will be convening in April, after spring break. The committee will include representation from every school in the district (including community and staff).

Construction projects: The district received approvals for MS6 that are needed to begin construction, and the project should break ground soon. MS6 and E16 are due to open Fall 2021. HS4 and E17, if all goes well, are to open in Fall 2022. The timeline is tight, but Ron is optimistic about progress. District has been meeting with Providence Heights HOA. The site plan is on the district website. The Maple Hills upgrades and improvements project will begin late spring/early summer. The Beaver Lake project is in the design stage.

Early Learning: The district is looking into a transition Kindergarten program targeting lower income students who don't attend preschool that will turn five between August 31 and mid-January. They will be eligible to attend a transition Kindergarten class from February through June, then begin Kindergarten the following fall. Also, the district is continuing work on the Holly Street building to accommodate the preschool.

Safety: New safety technologies in the four high schools will be announced in the next couple of months.

Bus Stop paddle cameras: During the month of January with paddle cameras on 30 busses, 123 citations were issued by King County. This month, 200 incidents are being reviewed already. About 70% of incidents result in citations.

Meeting adjourned: 11:52 a.m.

Submitted by:

Sara Carmichael

Secretary, Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6