
Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:34am. 44 people signed in. 23 of 24 schools were represented. Proper meeting notice was given. **Quorum Present.**

President's Welcome and Introductions - Erin Eaton

Erin welcomed everyone in attendance and made introductions.

Consent Agenda - Erin Eaton

The Consent Agenda included the following documents:

- June 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes
- July 2020 Financial Report
- August 2020 Financial Report
- Budget for 2020-2021

Business

Secretary - Cindy Kelm

The minutes from June 18, 2020 will be filed as presented.

Voting Delegates for Council - please complete the survey form listed with the meeting documents BEFORE October 8th.

Contact Information - If you have not yet, or have had changes, please send contact information for your board to secretary@issaquahptsa.org. We are looking for executive board (elected) and chair positions that mirror the council committee chairs (membership, special education, parent wiser, FACE, advocacy, reflections, etc). Some PTAs send their org chart.

Treasurer - Pauline Tamblyn

Reminder that council dues need to be paid.

Insurance needs to be paid and certificates send to Pauline for the district.

Membership - (OPEN) Erin Eaton

Council is looking for a membership chair and welcomes someone who is interested. Current membership data is not yet available.

President's Report - Erin Eaton

Proposed Standing Rules 2020-2021

Proposed Mission & Goals 2020-2021

Erin Eaton reviewed the Mission & Goals and the Standing Rules for 2020-2021 and all proposed changes.

MOTION 1 - Kristen Allen-Bentsen moved to approve the Standing Rules and Mission and Goals for the 20-21 school year. The motion received a second, was voted on, and carried.

PTA Communications: We are allowed to put a blurb into school eNews ("News from your PTA"), however, cannot publish/distribute a standalone newsletter for the PTA through the school. During the EVP / RSVP - process, the district collects the opt-outs from families. PTAs are able to ask the school secretary for family contact information, minus anyone who opted out, for your own school. Confirmed at the district level.

Vice Presidents *Carla Geraci, Nicole Morgan, Lauren Bartholomew*

No Report.

Looking for a Vice President of Elementary Schools North End. If anyone is interested, contact Erin Eaton.

Best Practices - Nicole Morgan

Must have a minimum of 25 members.

MemberPlanet invoicing is due the 20th of each month.

Update your Standing Rules and approved by your membership the first meeting.

Trainings - everything is online right now. WSPTA website has list for upcoming trainings.

Legislative Assembly is October 24-25 and counts as training.

Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Art - Laurelle Graves

Putting up the art docent lessons on the council website. If anyone would like to be involved, contact Laurelle.

FACE - Alicia Spinner

Working with the district and looking to have a FACE coordinator at each school. Will be reaching out to families. Shared google doc for FACE coordinators information.

Having a meeting for FACE coordinators on

Outreach - Darci Hanley & Tracie Jones

Sending out a newsletter starting in October in combination with *FACE* and *Special Education*. Looking for ideas, resources, programs, or suggestions to include.

Reminder to work with your school counselors for outreach and assistance.

Food Drives - Looking for small food drives throughout the year since we cannot do the large drives as in the past. Will be really important this year.

GIFT CARDS - PTA cannot purchase gift cards for individual students. If you are working with your school counselor to be able to support them, you can donate the funds directly to the school who will then use that to fill the need. You can also ask families to donate directly to the school without going through PTA. Gift cards can be purchased in amounts of less \$25 for staff appreciation IF made for the whole staff not individual staff.

ParentWiser - *Hannah Colbentz*

Full fall this year:

- Oct 7 - Motivating Teens/Tweens for Distance Learning and Beyond
- Oct 14 - ADHD and Executive Function - Building Better Brains
- Nov 18 - Keynote speaker fo the year, Julie Lythcott-Haims. How to Raise Successful Kids Without Overparenting.

If you have not been hearing from Hannah, please let her know.

Special Education - *Betsy Grant*

Primary items discussed with district: provide more communication with the community about the reopening plan and specifically for special education. Working on a Webinar series with dana bailey talking about questions of the moment. First one will focus on what families can expect with the return to in-person learning. Building a network and asked presidents to ask their memberships if anyone is interested in being involved.

Webmaster - *Cindy Kelm*

New calendar system on the website.

Surveys can be done any time using our SurveyMonkey account. Contact Cindy to set up.

Ad Hoc Committees

Clever/Canvas Support - *Cortney Eldridge*

Runs facebook pages for Clever and Canvas Support pages for parents in the schools. Admins of the pages are experts on these platforms with extensive experience and training on these platforms.

Influence the Choice - *Katie Moeller*

We do not currently have any local data, but we have national data that has both adults and students:

- March - overdoses up 18%
- April - overdoses up 29%
- May - overdoses up 42%

Have honest discussions with your students and model coping strategies.

YMCA is putting on events for suicide prevention from NAMI. Links are available on the council website.

TECH group is full of interesting and engaged students. Looking for more students. Application link is on the Influence the Choice website. Substance abuse education, learn leadership and advocacy skills, mental health awareness.

Issaquah Schools Foundation *Carolyn Kennedy & Cornell Atwater*

Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank - working on a partnership to help support food for our students. Normally it would be in the building, but need to be creative with Power Pack Plus. More information will be coming.

Power Pack Plus - a little more robust than regular power packs to be able to get when they pick up the family supplies. This is a supplemental program and will be looking for volunteers to put them together. Will look into whether honor society students can help for community service hours and report back.

Holiday Gift Barn - this year will be a gift card event instead of a big shopping event.

The Foundation is seeking out partnering and innovative ways to support students and schools in ways that follow district guidelines.

Cornell thanked everyone for all the work and commitment to our students, parents and teachers. You can reach out to Cornell at any time: cornell@isfdn.org or call 425.391.8557.

Reflections - *Kristen Allen-Bentzen, Leah Gibson, & Heather Bratton*

Up and running this year.

Detailed training powerpoint on the website.

9/28 at 10a and 7p - virtual training.

Theme concerns. This year's theme has been triggering for some groups. Themes are chosen two years in advance by student suggestions from a nationwide search by the National PTA. The Reflections team has been in communication with the the Student Equity Group regarding this.

Student Equity Group - *Jacob Lessing, Silvia Carias-Centeno, and Grace.*

Spoke regarding concerns students have with this year's Reflections theme "I Matter Because..." in the context of this year's Black Lives Matter movement; racist incidents happening in the schools; the fear of being a student of color; and that this prompt elevates the potential of putting marginalized groups in danger. Asking that PTA to use their influence to address the underlying issue of the culture of racism in our schools.

VIS *Dawn Peschek*

Reminded everyone to vote. Graphics are available on the visvote.org website to share.

This is an off year for VIS campaigns. If you have a line item on your budgets, please consider keeping that so that when there is a campaign, VIS will be ready to go.

Capitol Projects site on the district website shows project statuses.

School Board meetings are twice a month.

District Updates *Ron Thiele*

School Board Meeting tonight.

Dyslexia - parent engagement group meeting November 5.

Meal distribution - Waiver just got approved and extended to distribute multiple meals to anyone under 18. Last week ISD distributed nearly 4500 meals to students across our district. Adding breakfast increasing distribution to 10 meals/week instead of 5.

HS Graduation Dates

- June 11th for IHS, LHS, SHS (T-mobile park)
- June 10th for GEHS (Meydenbauer)

Executive Director of Communication position has been vacated as of July 1st. Hoping to have this position filled by the third week of October.

Capitol Projects - Elementary 16 and Middle School 6 are under construction and progress is on schedule to open next fall.

Comprehensive High School 4 and Elementary 17 are moving forward, but still in the site development phase with opposition from surrounding community.

Monitoring reports as a governance board will be discussed at the school board meeting tonight. Student Discipline. Starting to see nice trends in the right directions — suspensions are down, especially with students of color, special needs, and students or poverty. Two specific categories: failure to comply and disruptive behavior are down as well.

COVID and shutdown management - worked through the summer with IEA on reopening plans. Sent a letter to the community last week. Hybrid with around 9-10 students in a classroom. K students have not yet been in-person. Sending a survey out to K-3 families explaining what it will look like and asking for commitment through second trimester. Will have to reorganize some classes if students and teachers don't choose the same path (remote vs hybrid).

From questions asked:

- Look for information after January on when the boundary for Elementary 16 & Middle 6 will be drawn and communicated. Opportunities to join the boundary review committee is typically pushed out through the buildings and also advertise through the district.
- Monitoring of COVID case rates - everything will be dependent on the activity of the virus in our community. Must be prepared to transition back to fully remote. There will be a 2-3 week observation before bring in the next group.
- Looking at 4 days a week in-person using Wednesday as a full remote day (which also allows for a midweek deep clean of the buildings).
- *Why is ISD slower to return Special Education students than neighboring school districts?* LWSD has brought back their students. Mercer Island is bringing back individual students need based, Bellevue is bringing back students soon. ISD worked with IEA and did in-person hybrid summer school. It is complex and varying health care needs of this student population.

- Will follow up regarding the Merlin programs having Reflections as an art requirement and lack of volunteers. The Student Equity Group is more than willing to support that conversation about the Merlin and their Reflections program requirement in any way they can. Superintendent Thiele invited them to reach out at any time.
- Transportation is a complex issue. Conversations with IEA to figure out more details. The goal is to keep neighborhoods together as much as possible when creating the bus routes for returning to in-person school. Discussions are happening now.
- Ventilation systems at the schools: Maple Hills is getting a new system as part of their construction. What has been done is running the systems harder an increase of the volume of the systems to perform a complete air replacement much quicker. Increased filtration to higher than required standard. It is not HEPA as that would begin to break our ventilation systems. Most buildings have had upgrades. During the smoke, were able to stop pulling in outside air, and worked very well.
- Opening of outdoor fields for use: Fields - need to be mindful of not doing things that encourage large gatherings. ISD does not have a way to monitor and enforce gathering requirements. No timeline now, but is dependent on virus numbers. KingCo - Governor's Phase 3 is when sports activities can begin resuming again, based on the Decision Tree.
- Furloughed bus drivers and food service workers which means they are still available and receiving compensation and health benefits. Reduced paraprofessionals. Child care has been happening in ISD since March (about 275 elementary age students). Some paras have been recalled. Down about a thousand students across the system. Looking at the possibility of a reduction in force of certificated staff in the spring.
- The district has purchased a variety of masks including N95s & fitting kits for staff and cloth masks for students (2 per student). Guidance is constantly being updated. Hand sanitizer, additional sanitizing stations, touch-less thermometers, and gloves. Will need to continue procurement.
- ISD does not expect volunteers back in the buildings this year. Hoping to be able to get volunteers back in later in the school year, but it all depends on virus mitigation.
- Building filtration questions - referred to the Capitol Projects for details. Executive Director Martin Torney is the best person to ask. turneym@issaquah.wednet.edu
- Special Education Funding: *Has there been any change in how federal funding ISD has accepted for special education is used?* ISD received and used CARES funding and used it to procure PPE. Much of Special Education money does not come from the federal government. Questions can be emailed to the District CFO, Jake Kuper. kuperj@issaquah.wednet.edu

New Business

No new business.

Meeting adjourned: 12:02 p.m.

Submitted by:

Cindy Kelm

Secretary, Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6