
Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:34 am. 43 people signed in. 22 of 24 schools were represented. Proper meeting notice was given. **Quorum Present.**

Welcome and Introductions *Nicole Morgan*

Nicole welcomed everyone. Nicole will be running today's meeting in place of Erin Eaton.

Consent Agenda *Nicole Morgan*

- September 24, 2020 Meeting Minutes
- September 2020 Financial Report

Consent agenda was approved and will be filed as presented.

Business

Secretary *Cindy Kelm*

Received no corrections to the minutes so they will be filed as presented.
Reminders to fill out the fundraising survey and the voting delegate form.
Continue to send contact information updates for your board and chairs.

Treasurer *Pauline Tamblyn*

Treasurers should have received their welcome email from Pauline this week. If your treasurer has not received it, let Pauline know as soon as possible.

Reminder of getting insurance paid and certificates to Pauline
Council fees due October 31st.

Membership (OPEN) *Nicole Morgan*

Position still open.

To be in good standing, you must have at least 10 members by October 31st. This is a change from 25 this year only due to COVID.

President's Report *Nicole Morgan*

No report.

Reports

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

Best Practices / SOA *Carla Geraci*

Carla went through some upcoming dates listed on the Best Practices and the SOA forms which is available on the website.

Fundraising Survey

Please fill out the survey that was sent with the meeting reminder email. It is also with the meeting documents. There have been questions and concerns from what kind of fundraising everyone is doing to whether it is appropriate at this time.

Resolutions & Proclamations

Questions have come up about PTAs adopting a proclamation or resolution for recognizing Dyslexia Awareness Month. Will need to be case-by-case based on your PTA. Each membership or board will have to vote on doing this.

- Dyslexia Family and Staff Engagement Event, Nov 10th, 6:30pm

Standing Committees

Art *Laurelle Graves*

Art Docents will still be utilized this year. It is unlikely that any volunteers will be in the buildings for any in-person school this year. ISD hired a part-time art coordinator to make a few simplified lessons to go with the SEL curriculum. Implementation of lessons into some subjects such as history and science.

FACE *Alicia Spinner*

Met with the FACE coordinators to discuss and share resources and information. Then met with the ISD to share communication, resources, and recommendations.

Please fill out the Google Sheet of FACE Coordinator contact information. Link is available in the meeting documents on the website.

Reminder to have a FACE coordinator from each school.

Outreach *Darci Hanley & Tracie Jones*

Holiday Gift Barn will be only gift cards this year. Asking for \$25 due November 23 to the food bank. They can be either physical cards or electronic.

To ensure everyone's safety while still brightening families' holiday season, we are providing holiday shopping gift cards only this year. Participating families will receive an assigned gift card pick up day and time the week of November 30, Monday-Thursday from 10 am-3 pm.

Pre-registration is required!

Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank: Drive for new clothing beginning in November. Partnering with Eastside Baby Corner for young children.

ParentWiser *Hannah Colbentz*

Featured speaker coming up.

Translation services haven't been offered yet and asked for schools to let Hannah know what services are needed. ParentWiser will arrange and provide this.

Kim Schrier has a new outreach director, Evelyn. Looking to make virtual connections within our district such as dropping in to classrooms, attending GMMs, outreach or parent education for your PTA, etc. Email Hannah for contact information at parentwiser@IssaquahPTSA.org.

Special Education *Betsy Grant*

ECAP, ECE, LRC2, and ACT programs with students that have opted to be in the school for learning has been doing well.

Working on building a network of special education chairs at each individual PTA to share and coordinate information.

First webinar with the director of special services, Dana Bailey, is launching this week. It will be available on the website and sent out to each PTA.

Webmaster *Cindy Kelm*

Reminder for surveys and to send information updates to post or share.

Ad Hoc Committees

Clever/Canvas Support *Cortney Eldridge*

Group has about 2500 people in the group and discussed the food services. ISD has a lot of food going to waste. With 7 pick up sites, there are many people that cannot get there to pick it up. Going through the counselors is a resource. Biggest restraint is confidentiality.

Influence the Choice *Katie Moeller*

Explained what ITC is and what they do. They work for prevention and advocacy for student voice.

Power of Me, Power of We conference is November 7, 10-11:30 and November 10, 5:30-7:30.

Can attend both, but not required. For 7-9th grade students. Flyer is available on the Council website and the ITC website.

What You Should Know event coming up.

Prescription Drug Take Back days are coming up. ITC does not advertise these days, they advocate getting it out of your house immediately. Many pharmacies will take it back for disposal.

Issaquah Schools Foundation *Carolyn Kennedy & Cornell Atwater*

Ambassador meeting on Nov 5th for ambassadors and presidents. Foundation focus and promotion to the building communities. Erin from the food bank will be there to talk about the partnership.

Please fill out the surveys on basic needs in your school working with the food bank and the nurses fund.

Asking if schools that use school supply companies, who is being used.

Cornell thanked everyone for their efforts and commitment to our students, parents and teachers. Reach out to her at anytime at cornell@isfdn.org or call 425.391.8557.

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

Chairs will be getting ready to collect art in the next week. Reach out if you or your chairs need support.

District Updates *Ron Thiele*

- Community update video on the ISD youtube page. Description has a list of timestamped subjects.
- Interviewing new communications directors. Leading candidate has withdrawn.
- Starting Transition Kindergarten starting in January. An attempt to scoop up the kids that turn 5 during the school year for a jumpstart on kindergarten to address early learning needs. These students would then join kindergarten the following fall.
- Childcare has openings at some of the schools.
- Currently serving in-person for ECAP, ECE, LRC2, and ACT.
- Holly Street building is running in-person preschool. Modifications are being made to the building
- Boundary Committee will begin in November to wrap up in January or early February. The principal and a parent from each school will be involved focusing on MS 6 and EL 16. Internal postings for Planning Principals have gone up. This year, will be releasing the principal partially and adding an assistant principal to the building the Planning Principal comes from.
- MS 6 and EL 16 moving forward and on target to receive students in the fall.
- ISD had a positive ruling on the Providence Point property for Comprehensive HS4. Site plan has been submitted to the city of Issaquah. Expectation is to be approved and start construction in the spring.
- Monitoring the budget carefully and watching the loss of K-12 revenue. The most impact will be felt in the 2021-2022 school year.
- Reminder to mitigate the spread with wearing masks, hand washing, distancing, and flu shot encouragement.

FROM QUESTIONS:

Moving forward, since case rates are above, how is ISD planning for return or closure?

Will parents have a chance to change their answer for remaining remote or returning in-person?

Bellevue, Federal Way, and Highline have stated they will not bring back students prior to January.

ISD is watching the numbers and are not going to give a hard date. In the decision tree, it says that when you are in the high category (75 or above) to look to younger learners, currently asking for clarification on what is meant by "younger learners." If the numbers get us to being able to bring students back, then they want to be ready to do that. Conversations with the IEA, staff members, and schedule building currently in progress. May have to build additional classes if families change their minds and wish to join the in-person learning.

Highly likely that will not have secondary students back in before second semester.

Homework Load has been really high on top of the secondary students online learning. This is a concern voiced by many across the district.

Be sure to share this concern with your teachers. Feedback is critical. Will be doing a review of the current secondary schedule and will be surveying all of the high school community soon. Hoping to have a more reasonable load. Encourage parents to keep monitoring grades and keeping their students on target.

Having spoke with teachers and counselor, with 3 students in special education at MS and EL levels, have additional education loads. Nothing has changed with the workloads and have been getting additional homework.

Assignments could be modified so that work isn't being doubled up for these kids. Working with the teachers and keep giving feedback to ISD.

Will the remaining grades of 2-5 look like the K-1 program?

2-3 yes, but 4-5 could look different. Talks with the IEA only goes through 3rd, so far.

How many kids on campus at any one time. Would some 4-5 be put at a MS or HS?

Depends on how many students will be in-person. Kids need to be co-horted together and that becomes difficult at the high school level.

As soon as the plan is all signed off, they will be discussing and planning the next group. Constantly monitoring what the guidelines are.

Class sizes maximum, both remote and in-person?

Newer schools have larger classrooms. Traditional is about 30x30 or 900 sqft. Depending on configuration with furniture/cabinetry. Can get about 13-18 students with distancing, depending on the classroom. Virtual could be larger than a regular class, but not enormous. Ideally up to 25.

New Survey for remote/in-person?

Discussions can happen between the family, teacher, and principals to accommodate, based on space, and continue discussions. Teachers could change depending on logistics and numbers. It will remain an ISD teacher and highly likely to be a teacher from your building.

Advance notice for returning to school?

Ideally it will be at least a week advance notice.

Moving forward with transportation plans.

At our last council meeting we learned that our schools can pass on contact information (parent name, email address, etc) gathered from EVP to the PTSA. We've had a hard time getting our school to share that info and they want something in writing from the district to assure that they

are allowed to do this. Can you please send communication to principals that addresses this? Or can the district provide that information directly to us? Also, in addition to parent contact info, are we also allowed to have access to class lists?

There was a blanket approval from the District and this comes up every year. If you are getting pushback, start with the principal, email Executive Director of High School Education, Donna Hood at hoodd@issaquah.wednet.edu and copy Superintendent Theile at thieler@issaquah.wednet.edu.

The K-3rd law states that the class size shouldn't be above a certain number. Why wouldn't it be the same virtually?

The main difference would be the monitoring of physical behavior.

Enrollment is down across the state. ISD is down around 1,000 students so we are currently overstaffed by about 15 teachers and resulting in small class sizes.

Food delivery - Martin Turney covers this thoroughly in the district video.

The transportation waiver that had allowed for delivery of food has expired. Please reach out to the district if you or someone needs help accessing the services within the law.

Will follow up with food services on a possible message to help let people know there might be some solutions to help get the food out to those that cannot pick it up.

New Business

No new business.

Adjourned at 11:51am.

Submitted by:

Cindy Kelm

Secretary, Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6