

ISSAQUAH PTSA COUNCIL

Advocating and Supporting our Schools & Community

2.6

Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6 Council General Membership Meeting February 17, 2022 9:30 AM

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 9:34 AM, on February 17, 2022.
- 41 Community and Membership members were in attendance: Superintendent Ron Thiele, Lauren Bartholomew, Angela Dahrea, Jillian Born, Derona Burkholder, Laura Burnett, Julie Chang, Hannah Colbenz, Laila Collins, Dana Cosgrove, Wendy Cummins, Angela Dahrea, Erin Eaton, Cortney Eldridge, Qibo Fan, Tara Farhead, Joana Figueiredo, Minal Ghassemish, Lorna Gilmore, Laurelle Graves, Kristi Hammond, Jen Marks, Karissa Mobilia, Katie Moeller, Anne Moore, Nicole Morgan, Laura Ni, Tiffany Parker, Dawn Peschek, Elysa Piha, Stephanie Scott, Stephanie Shipley, Korista Smith-Barney, Alicia Spinner, Pauline Tamblyn, Martin Turney, Mary Vickers, Suzanne Weaver, Meng Yang, Eve Yen, and Tracie Jones.
- Proper meeting notice given; quorum present.

President's Welcome and Introductions

Lauren Bartholomew

- Lauren Bartholomew welcomed everyone in attendance to start meeting.
- 125th PTA Anniversary and Kindness Day.

Consent Agenda

Lauren Bartholomew

- Consent Agenda included following documents, with Motions approved:
 - January 2022 Meeting Minutes.
 - January 2022, July 2022 to January 2022 Financial Reports.

Business

Secretary

Tracie Jones

- January 2022 Minutes filed as presented.

Treasurer

Pauline Tamblyn

- January 2022 Financials filed as presented.

President's Report

Lauren Bartholomew

- Working with Susan Mandell, ISD Executive Director of Elementary Education.
 - Waiting for guidance around extra-curricular, after school, PTSA programs and direct involvement within elementary classrooms and schools.
 - Official guidelines, checklists from ISD to soon follow.
- Poll: Voters likely prefer hybrid meeting options; Zoom and in-person allow flexibility.
- WA State PTA Unit Membership Awards applications open until Mid-March 2022.
- 2021-22 Nominating Committee Council presented, discussion, vote, and unanimously approved.
 - Erin Eaton, Cortney Eldridge, and Laurelle Graves were unanimously approved to serve on the Issaquah PTSA Council Nomination Committee.
 - Currently looking for 2022-23 Council Leadership.
 - Cast larger net, across Issaquah PTSA Council, looking for larger geographical representation.
- 2021-22 Issaquah PTSA Council Awards Committee presented, discussion, voted, and unanimously approved.

- o Laurelle Graves, Tracie Jones, and Laura Ni are currently supporting unit PTSAs with individual Awards: Golden Acorn, Outstanding Advocates, and Outstanding Educators.

Vice Presidents

Wendy Cummins, Erin Eaton, Nicole Morgan

- Training updates available online, through Council website and calendar.

Best Practices

Nicole Morgan

- February and March SOE, updated monthly SOEs may be found on website.

Standing Committees

Advocacy

Cortney Eldridge

- Celebrating 120th Anniversary of the PTA; focus events, celebrations, history, and information at PTA.org.

Art Docent

Laurelle Graves

- Coordination meeting with Karen Harmon, ISD Coordinator.
- ISD Administrative Meeting moved to March 4, 2022.

FACE

Alicia Spinner

- Working to share information through ISD PTSAs, Cultural Bridges, FACE representatives, and ISD organizations, programs, to coordinate more in-person events as schools open doors.

Outreach

Angela Dahrea

- Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank Lunch for the Break supported hundreds of families.
- ISD Breakfast Program, in conjunction with ISF and Carolyn Kennedy.
 - o ISF and Council coordinate providing ISD schools with Safeway gift cards to purchase breakfast supplies.
 - o Direct contacts: school nurses, secretaries, counselors, and principals, personalized/school.
 - o Equity need, not equal need.
 - o Angela Dahrea and Carolyn Kennedy coordinating with schools, providing gap services.

ParentWiser

Hannah Colbenz

- February 16, 2022 presentation, "An Updated Perspective on Tech Usage", 300+ registered families.
- April 5, 2022 presentation discussing teen decision making, with Julie Metzger. Details to follow.
- Spring Survey – welcome suggestions from Council and greater community.

Special Education

Betsy Grant

- Upcoming Webinar to discuss multi-tiered services.
- Special Education monthly meetings to soon resume.

Website & Communications

Laura Ni

- Council and Unit Volunteer Awards **Links** currently available.
 - o Links for Golden Acorn, Outstanding Advocate, Outstanding Educator are the traditional three Volunteer Awards offered through Council PTSA.
 - o Additional Awards categories may include Lifetime Achievement.
 - o Questions about Awards, process, dates, contact Tracie Jones, Council Secretary.
- Contact Laura Ni for Unit LINK, and questions on Survey.
- When units need survey results, directly email Webmaster for complete updates.

Ad Hoc Committees

Influence the Choice

Katie Moeller

- TECH – "Teens Encouraging Community Health" youth group recruiting students.
- 10th Annual INFLUENCE THE CHOICE Student Video Contest.
 - o Promote, showcase resilience students showing in the face of adversity.
 - o inspire youth to POSITIVELY influence each other by producing 2-minute public service announcement.

Issaquah Schools Foundation

Laila Collins

- ISF providing ISD teacher training on youth mental health.
- Kateri Bow Enrichment Grants approved, and announcements soon.
 - \$82,000 in grants.
 - \$15,000 consent speaker and program.
 - Play and sensory equipment – ECAP.
- Nourish Every Mind May Month-long Event.
 - Looking for volunteers, sponsors, auction donations.
 - Online, with speakers, auction, and events.
- Impact Scholarships – lives enriched by ISF
 - Closes 2/28/22.

Reflections

Kristen Allen-Bentsen & Heather Bratton

- All Reflections entries received by WA State PTA.
 - Results expected in April 2022.
 - Virtual Reception.
- ISD Artwalk Reception scheduled for March 3, 2022, at IHS.

Safety

Laurelle Graves

- No report.

Volunteers for Issaquah Schools Endorsement

Volunteers for Issaquah Schools

Dawn Peschek and Martin Turney

- Vis and ISD Update.
- Martin Turney presented slideshow presentation, *Key Levy Information 2022*, discussing the Ballot measures set for vote on April 26, 2022, along with detailed information regarding Educational Programs & Operations (EP&O) Replacement Levy, Renewal Capital Levy, and Transportation (School Bus) Levy, tax impact, FAQs, cost benefit analysis, all included within slideshow. https://visvote.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Levy-2022_updated-2_28-03_08_22.pdf
- Replacement Levy, Renewal Levy, and
- Ballot measures set for vote April 26, 2022.
 - [https://apps.issaquah.wednet.edu/documents/events/1374/1179%20CP%204-Year%20\(April%202022\)%20\(Prop%20\)%202-10-2022.pdf](https://apps.issaquah.wednet.edu/documents/events/1374/1179%20CP%204-Year%20(April%202022)%20(Prop%20)%202-10-2022.pdf)
- VIS encourages unit PTSA to get the word out, facts, and impact knowledge.
 - <https://visvote.org/endorse-renewal-levies/>
- <https://visvote.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ISD-Levy-Fact-Sheet-2022.pdf>
- Educational Programs & Operations (EP&O) Replacement Levy.
 - Represents 15.6% of the district's operating budget, and will continue funding day-to-day operations.
 - *Student Services*: school nurses, counselors, educator salaries, mental health supports, instructional coaches, HS 7-period day, family partnerships, equity programs, extracurricular activities, and athletics.
 - *Academic Programs*: special education, multilingual/English learners program, highly capable program, elementary dual language immersion program, secondary and pre-k summer school.
 - *Support Services*: custodial services, maintenance, repair, school safety, and security systems; Student transportation: bus driver salaries, fuel, maintenance.
 - The estimated tax rate would be \$1.43 per \$1,000 of assessed property value in 2023 and 2024; and \$1.42 per \$1,000 in 2025 and 2026.
- Renewal Capital Levy.
 - Capital Replacement Levy includes technology and building maintenance and updates.
 - Needed technology in-and-out of k-12 classrooms, including guaranteed and reliable access to standard equipment, either shared or individual access.
 - *Building Maintenance*, completing critical safety repairs, such as HVAC and roof repairs, and regularly scheduled maintenance.
 - The levy helps ISD complete construction in building high school #4.
 - Due to changes directed from the City of Issaquah and neighborhood requirements, ISD increased green space buffer.

- The proposed measure includes additional inflationary funding needed to complete the project.
- The replacement Capital (Technology and Construction) Levy would cost an estimated \$0.73 per \$1,000 assessed property value in 2023, \$0.81 per \$1,000 assessed property value in 2024, \$0.78 per \$1,000 assessed property value in 2025, and \$0.75 per \$1,000 assessed property value in 2026.
- Transportation (School Bus) Levy
 - The School Bus Levy would purchase 64 new buses, when combined with WA State reimbursement funding, keeping current bus fleet aligned with state safety standards, while maximizing efficiency to preserve operational dollars, through 2023-2026.
 - The estimated tax rate for the one-year measure is \$0.07 per \$1,000 assessed property value.
- Postcard Mailer Campaign Anne Moore and Karissa Moblia
 - VIS depends on unit PTSAs to help get the word out to ISD families.
 - Coordination with unit Presidents.
 - Pick-up at March Council Meeting or March 9th, at Tutta Bella.
 - Label postcards, one per family/within ISD.
 - Mail directly at USPS-Gilman Blvd location.
 - Bulk mail.
 - USPS only accepts checks.
 - Date and timing information to follow.
 - All questions, issues, contact Dawn Peschek for mailer fulfillment concerns.
- Preschool Information Karissa Moblia
 - Providing information packets to all local preschools.
 - Future ISD families.
 - Discussing today's impact on tomorrow's students.
 - Need help, personal connections with local preschools.
 - Volunteers?
- Homeowners Associations. Korista Smith-Barney
 - Providing information packets to local HOAs.
 - Speaking with our many HOA neighborhoods within ISD.
 - ISD builds school communities within neighborhoods.
 - Discussing today's importance and impact on home and neighborhood values.
 - Need help, personal connections with local HOAs.
 - Volunteers?

Volunteers for Issaquah Schools

Dawn Peschek

- Information available throughout ISD, VIS website, and unit PTSAs.
 - <https://visvote.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/VIS-Levy-Information-Sheet..pdf>
- Speaker calendar available on VIS website.
- VIS swag still available for Unit PTSA; in-person meeting or individual coordination to pick-up.
- VIS encourages all ISD unit PTAs to endorse upcoming Levy,
 - Sample Unit Endorsements: <https://visvote.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/2022-sample-endorsement-vote-ptas.pdf>
- Levy information, communications, videos, land acquisition, <https://visvote.org/>
 - Powerpoints available for Unit presentations, information, graphics, overview.
 - Issaquah PTSA Presidents directly received VIS updates, documents, graphics overviews, detailing relevant data to better inform collective PTSA community, as well as legal disclosures information.
- Share and update accordingly, bi-monthly email updates. Document emailed to all PTSA Presidents, and found on Issaquah PTSA Council Website.
 - Upcoming VIS Speaker Series, providing ISD Board Members to directly discuss upcoming April Levy with individual Unit memberships.
 - Upcoming Honk and Waves being scheduled; stay tuned for details.
 - Presidents: identify VIS representative or contact for each Unit PTSA.
 - Yard Signs.
 - Great VIS volunteer opportunities for middle and high school students.

- Thank you to our generous community for all donations.
- Thank you to those Units who budgeted donations.
 - Welcome donations to support Levy Campaign.
 - VIS Postcard Distribution, beginning of March 2022.
- Unit PTSAs will be forwarded further guidelines and instructions.
- Procedural, legal processes, as Council applies for bulk postal rates, and following ISD, State, and local Levy protocols.
- Contact Dawn Peschek.

Volunteers for Issaquah Schools Endorsement

- The Issaquah PTSA Council put forth a membership vote to *Endorse*, as Issaquah PTSA Council, the April 26, 2022 Issaquah School District renewal levies.
- The motion was presented, seconded, put forth for questions and discussion, and voted upon by the attending membership.
- The motion to Endorse the three ISD Levy Measures unanimously passed.
- Therefore, the Issaquah PTSA Council proudly endorses the three ISD Levy Measures, supporting our schools, families, and kids.

Issaquah School District Updates

Superintendent Ron Thiele

- Thank you to everyone working to support ISD through VIS.
 - Similar measures have passed in other local districts.
- Special Education.
 - Boot camps available during winter and spring breaks.
 - Summer school will be available through building principal invitation.
 - Pleased with recovery services; provided as needed.
 - High schools added additional 9th grade pre-algebra classes for extra math supports due to gaps in knowledge due to pandemic.
- ISD-Costco partnership COVID-19 vaccination clinic for families and students, as young as 5 years-old.
 - Family vaccinations available.
 - March and April.
 - Coordination with Issaquah Schools Foundation.
 - Vaccine registration link to follow.
- Washington State Legislative Meetings
 - Senate Bill 5563 and House Bill 1590 aim to combat "enrollment stabilization funding to address enrollment declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic".
 - Disparity in emergency funds distribution.
 - Enrollment declines, and not receiving last year's ESSER fundings.
 - Enrollment hold harmless; pandemic driven.
 - ISD program impact: special education, learning assistance program, including students enrolled in free or reduced lunch plans, transitional bilingual support, highly capable program, career and technical education, trade/technical/ skill center allocations, residential schools - juvenile detention facilities, dropout reengagement, alternative learning, and Running Start college credit courses.
- School improvement planning underway, meeting with school Principals and School Board Members.
- Awaiting Governor Inslee's press conference to reduce COVID-19 mitigation policies, then OSPI working with state-wide districts.
- City Development Commission.
- Meeting to request stopping delays to building #4HS.
- Virtual meeting, allowing public input; March 2, 2022.
- Washington State revenue forecast-excess \$1.4 billion, with Education as "Paramount duty".
- Washington State plans to distribute \$180 million to education; 50-70% of Washington State school districts benefit under plan.

Issaquah School Board Update

Suzanne Weaver

- ISD Board of Directors selected McPherson & Jacobson to lead Executive Recruitment Search.
- Executive Recruitment Firm posted position, with lots of interest.

- ISD stakeholders and community input to help guide search, listening to our community.
 - Multiple parent and group meetings planned.
- Live public surveys, better providing more community opportunities for input, assisting ISD School Board, McPherson & Jacobson processes in mapping desired characteristics, values important to those stakeholders for next ISD Superintendent.
 - Technical glitches.
- Opportunities for community engagement, conversation, focused on "meeting" the three candidates.

New Business

Lauren Bartholomew

- Thank you. Look forward to seeing everyone at next hybrid meeting, March 24, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 11:18 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracie Jones
Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6, Secretary

2021-22 Issaquah PTSA Council Contact Information

Executive Council Committee:

Lauren Bartholomew, President
president@issaquahptsa.org

Tracie Jones, Secretary
secretary@issaquahptsa.org

Pauline Tamblyn, Treasurer
treasurer@issaquahptsa.org

Wendy Cummins, Vice President of Middle & High Schools
vp-middle@issaquahptsa.org & vp-high@issaquahptsa.org
Middle Schools: Beaver Lake, Cougar Mountain, Issaquah, Maywood, Pacific Cascade, Pine Lake
High Schools: Gibson Ek, Issaquah High, Liberty, Skyline

OPEN POSITION: Vice President of Elementary Schools – South District
vp-el-south@issaquahptsa.org
South Elementaries: Apollo, Briarwood, Maple Hills, Newcastle

Erin Eaton, Vice President of Elementary Schools – North District
vp-el-north@issaquahptsa.org
North: Cascade Ridge, Cedar Trails, Challenger, Creekside, Discovery, Endeavour, Sunny Hills

Nicole Morgan, Vice President of Elementary Schools – Central District
vp-el-central@issaquahptsa.org
Central: Clark, Cougar Ridge, Grand Ridge, Issaquah Valley, Sunset North

Standing Council Committees:

Cortney Eldridge - Advocacy & Legislation
advocacy@issaquahptsa.org

Laurelle Graves - Art Docent Program
artdocent@issaquahptsa.org

Alicia Spinner - Family & Community Engagement
face@issaquahptsa.org

Membership (*OPEN*)
membership@issaquahptsa.org

Angela Dahrea - Outreach
outreach@issaquahptsa.org

Hannah Colbentz - ParentWiser
parentwiser@issaquahptsa.org

Betsy Grant - Special Education
special-education@issaquahptsa.org

Laura Ni - Website & Communications
webmaster@issaquahptsa.org

Ad Hoc Council Committees:

Katie Moeller – Influence the Choice
influencethechoice@issaquahptsa.org

Laila Collins - Issaquah Schools Foundation
isf-rep@issaquahptsa.org

Kristen Allen-Bentsen, Heather Bratton - Reflections
ISD
reflectionsisd@issaquahptsa.org

Laurelle Graves - Safety Committee
artdocent@issaquahptsa.org

Dawn Peschek - Volunteers for Issaquah Schools
(VIS) - vis-rep@issaquahptsa.org

