

Washington School for the Deaf Parent Staff Organization

Meeting Notes

January 24, 2024

5:30-7pm, Zoom

Call to order: 5:30pm by Ashley

- **Roll Call**

- Please turn on your camera and introduce yourself and the child(ren) in your family attending WSD. Make sure your name on Zoom is your actual first and last name.
- **Board Members:** Ashley Wilkins (President), Seven Star (Secretary), Belle Johnson (Vice President), Heather Quackenbush (Treasurer), Elysse Morton (Co-Treasurer)
- **Other Attendees:** LeFawn'e Robinson, Justin Morton, Stina Lane-Cummings, Josie Krueger, Jonah Thompson, Heather Wright, Kyla Ritchey, Krystal Carino, Tara Williams, Ross Olson, Shauna Bilyeu, Piper Gallucci, Taylor Mendoza (meeting host), Eric and Judy Chadwick
- **Interpreters:** Aaron Medlock, Saamanta Serna

- **Welcome**

- Next scheduled meeting: FEB 28 5:30-7. (Join at 5:15 for social time/getting to learn how to use Zoom)
- **Rules for engagement on Zoom:**
 - All screens need to remain off unless you are communicating with the group. Please use the "raise hand" icon to speak or sign and remember to say your name before you speak or sign.
 - Please use the chat for questions that can be answered at a later time. Chat will also be used to post resources and written statements. Keep the chat box for brief meeting-related comments or questions and not for socializing.
 - Please use the "raise hand" icon to speak or sign and remember to say your name before you speak or sign.
- **Parameters for meetings:**

- Meetings will be reserved for committee leads to report to the group on project progress or special assignments they are working on.
- Committees will work independently of the group and with one designated officer. The designated officer will not act as a member of the committee, but rather a resource for information and compliance.
- Any new business will need to be added to the agenda within two weeks of the posted meeting. This includes any items needed to be voted on for any committee.
- New Business may be added to the agenda by contacting PSOforWSD@gmail.com.

- **Approval of meeting notes from last month**

- Must be passed by $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote. Only opposing votes are counted (easier on Zoom that way).

- **Financial Report: Heather**

- Check to get approval to add Ashley on the Columbia Credit Union bank account in tandem with Heather. Heather makes a motion to approve that, motion is approved. Elysse will be co-treasurer and need to be added as well. Motion to add Elysse as co-treasurer and on the Columbia Credit Union bank account, motion passed.
- Current balance \$2,043.00 in Columbia Credit Union account and \$57.25 in the WSD account for a total of \$2,100.25.
- Income: Jamba Juice Fundraising (\$520) and Hoodie Fundraising (\$535) for a total of \$1,055
- Expenditure: Reimbursement for Jamba Juice cards (\$250) and donation to D.E.A.F. for the playground! (\$336.75) for a total of \$586.74
- Planned future expense of \$336.75 for spending on Classroom Libraries (already voted on)- Ashley adds that an email was sent to teachers letting them know we had funds for the classroom libraries and asking for a list of 5-10 books that they would like to have for their rooms. Working with Ginger Speranza on it. If anyone wants to get involved in that effort, please contact Ashley.

- **Committee Reports**

- **Executive Committee**

- Presidential Report- **Ashley**
 - Holiday Party was a HUGE SUCCESS! We continue to see kids coming to school holding Rudolph (the gift from PSO) and I saw

several pictures on social media of students over Winter Break and Rudolph was in many pictures!) Kelly Johnson was Santa, we went to the Preschool classrooms first in the morning & then the party was in the afternoon for the rest of the kids. Santa was a huge hit, PSO has decided to keep Kelly Johnson for as long as he is willing. Next year WE ARE ON OUR OWN-we need people on this Committee. Contact me if you're interested.

- Aubree "AJ" Thompson, Deaf Barber's shop will be moving later than expected, hopefully soon! We were able to have a few of us show up at the assembly for Secondary, anytime PSO needs to share information; a good time would be during announcements Mondays from 8-8:15 in the Gym. (make sure to always give school a heads up to make sure it's okay) but it has been great for the students to see the faces of PSO. Ashley adds that AJ currently works at Columbia Crossing and Ashley's son got a great haircut from her.
- Don't forget Feb 1 is the deadline for the Buy-A-Brick fundraiser. Forms can be found at front offices of Clark, Divine & Northrop.
- Piper Gallucci (Academic Dean) would love PSO's feedback on adopting a reward level system for Day Students (Residential already has one for 7 + grades.) She mainly wants to know how you as parents feel about this. (Example of one reward-having Uber Eats delivered for lunch.) Piper adds that the current residential system depends on attendance, behavior, grades, etc. Some day students have asked to have a similar system. Some ideas: "Honor" level, "Gold" level. Piper would like to meet with a few parents to discuss ideas and then set up the new system in a few weeks. Right now it's only for secondary students. Ross Olson expressed concern that the residential students still have something separate to feel special. Piper says that residential students will still keep their same system, the new day student system would not affect the residential students. Josie Krueger asks how to make sure that the two systems are different because the cottage students are there all day. Ashley explains that elementary students have a "Student of the Week" but older students might not appreciate that. Piper is focused on secondary students and they would like to earn privileges such as having more freedom on campus. The system would encourage students

to get good grades and show up to class on time and follow the rules.

- Seven Star asked for people to say their name before they talk or sign so that she can follow the conversation for the notes.
- Meeting minutes need to be approved. Ashley says that the notes are posted on Parent Square. Make sure you have access to that app. They are also posted on the bulletin board in Northrup. Shauna says to research how other schools send out their PTA meeting notes. Really parent Square should not be used for that because WSD pays for and owns that software. Heather says that the notes are posted on the website. Ross Olson put a link to the location in the chat <https://www.wsd.wa.gov/psd/>
- Ashley & Belle would like to request a budget of \$260. \$200 for a special staff gift during Appreciation Week in May. Ashley would like to ask for \$60 for the Hot Chocolate Bar supplies. (cups, hot chocolate, toppings, whip cream/dairy free options/etc)

○ **Standing Committees**

■ **Communications-** LeFawn'e, Judy, Tara, Elysse

- Met on Zoom on 1/15.
- LeFawn'e shared the link to read the description of the committee and a sign up sheet on Google Docs:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1MxuMag9MySKXCsfWnylw5bz9nlpcxCcv9B7U3lVT4xk/viewform?edit_requested=true&pli=1
- Lefawn'e shared the document and talked about current needs, a few upcoming Deaf community events and asked to join the FB group: WSD PSO Communication Committee. She showed the website for their committee and what content they have there:
<https://www.wsd.wa.gov/psd/#:~:text=The%20WSD%20PSO%20is%20the,supports%20the%20community%20of%20WSD>
- URGENT-TAKE PICTURE FOR D.E.A.F.- they paid for our Zoom account so to thank them- we will take a picture and print it to create a card. Picture was taken and approved.
- Welcome Tara Williams to the Communications Committee!
- Tara & Ashley are working on the bulletin board in Secondary.

■ **Fundraising-** Chelsey, Belle, Elysse, Heather

- Jamba Juice Gift Cards- there were 50 cards total and we sold all of them for a total of \$250
- Ashley mentions that the business office is overwhelmed right now since WSD had a cyber attack recently of ransomware.
- The new WSD Terriers hoodies are out and hopefully they will be available soon. Some were sold over Winter break. Belle showed examples of two different hoodies. She says we can start advertising the hoodies now. They cost \$45 each and sizes are available up to XXL but you can request larger if you need. We have plenty left. Elysse says we could sell hoodies before and during basketball games. To order a shirt please email PSOforWSD@gmail.com
- A teacher named Sara at WSD teaches a marketing class and she has helped students create a video commercial for the hoodies
- Hoodies are already stocked in Terrier world
- There is ongoing discussion about selling hoodies at the assembly on Feb 1st and several ppl have volunteered.
- Krystal asks if we will have a bundle discount if ppl order several for a whole family. Belle says we really want to try to earn as much as possible for PSO but maybe we could do that in the future.
- Ashley adds if anyone knows someone who could help us by creating new designs please let PSO know

■ **Staff/Student Appreciation-** Kyla, Dylan, Shannon, Danielle, Eric, Tara

- Welcome Elysse Morton to this Committee!
- Met on Zoom 1/11.
- Kyla says she is in contact with a company to provide food for TAW and the budget is up to \$700 so everyone would be included, not just faculty. This business is giving us a very good discount as well.
- Heather says we do have enough in the budget right now but we need to make sure we have enough left if we have another big event soon. TAW is in May so we might have time to raise more funds.
- Bingo card game- played Bingo at the secondary assembly to let kids know about PSO
- Hot chocolate bar for staff and students- Ashley met with Admin Thursday 1/18, plan for the Hot Chocolate Bar is 1/29 (start of

quarter 3) Want to do it at elementary school entrance when they come back from recess and another one for secondary students in the gym during the morning assembly. We will borrow hot water carafes from the cafeteria. If anyone is interested in helping us please let me know.

- Ashley asks for \$60 to pay for the hot chocolate bars, there are no objections
- Ashley says her friend at Battle Ground HS had an idea to give something to staff to show their appreciation and she doesn't want to say the details tonight but if anyone is interested they can contact her. It would cost about \$200.
- Survey sent to Teachers -ASHLEY

■ **Education-** Bill, Shannon, **Shauna**, Taylor

- Shauna says Feb 1st at 2pm is the WSD 138th birthday and will show pictures of the new playground. In the auditorium. Public is welcome. Ashley asks if Shauna wants PSO to do anything? Shauna says WSDAA is providing cake.
- We will have 3 makeup school days because of snow days: This Friday Jan 26, March 29, and June 12. We have to do that because we can't extend the end of the school year because of the construction schedule.

○ **Special Committees**

■ **Playground Committee:** Elysse, Crystal, Marely, Ashley, Shauna

- (THE TIME IS GETTING CLOSER TO THE NEW PLAYGROUND!!!!) The survey we sent out in the beginning of the year asked what we should do with the funds from our T-shirt fundraiser last Spring, half voted to donate to the new Inclusive Playground and the other half voted to donate to building classroom libraries. Half has already been donated to
- Shauna will be unveiling the new Playground to Students/Staff during the Feb 1 assembly, she would like PSO to attend.

● **Old Business**

- Recent Wins: money raised from Jamba and Hoodies! Committees are meeting pretty regularly, please join a Committee! This is a great opportunity for you to get to know other parents/Staff outside of our monthly PSO meeting.
- To be finished up from last month:
 - PLEASE JOIN A COMMITTEE! WE ARE NEEDING MORE VOLUNTEERS!
Make sure you fill out your volunteer form and get it into Sharon Caton, the form can be found on the school website.
- **New Business**
 - FEBRUARY FAN-Wednesday Feb 21. (Cheerleaders lead this as part of their community service; if you are interested in coming and helping please contact Ashley)
 - Ashley adds that she will meet with David Born from D.E.A.F. to learn more about running a meeting
- **Questions/Comments/Member-led New Business**
- **Next Meeting February 28, 5:30-7pm on Zoom**
- **Meeting adjourned at 7:06pm by Ashley**

Notes submitted by Seven Star, PSO secretary. Additions and/or corrections welcomed and appreciated.