

Parent Staff Organization Meeting Notes
April 25th, 2023

Agenda

- Call to order: 6:00pm

- Roll call
 - Seven Star
 - Shannon A.
 - Eric Chadwick
 - Cynthia Duncan
 - Amelia Finney
 - Judy Chadwick
 - Elysse Morton
 - Jam the bugs
 - LeFawn'e Robinson
 - Heather Quackenbush
 - Belle Johnson
 - Ashley Wilkins
 - Shauna B.
 - Marely Rodriquez

- **Welcome**
 - Parking lot for questions: Please use yellow sticky notes for questions that can not be answered at this time, or email psowforwsd@gmail.com after the meeting.
 - Note on participating in discussion: Please hold the pinwheel, etc while sharing so everyone knows who is signing or speaking.
 - Feedback from the group on communicating during the meeting:
 - There is a need for copy sign for online meetings.
 - It is hard for in person attendees to see interpreters, they are too small on Zoom.
 - Those attending via Zoom cannot see the in person attendees well enough to read their sign.
 - Next scheduled meeting: **May 2nd (Special Meeting) CEASD Accreditation Forum 6:00 PM** Clark Hall room 150, interpreters provided.
 - WSD is undergoing a voluntary accreditation review and has asked for our assistance! The accreditation entity, Conference of Education Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf (CEASD), will be reviewing school procedures and practices and has also requested to interview a panel of WSD parents. CEASD will be attending a PSO

special meeting on May 2nd, in order to discuss parent perspectives and experiences with WSD. Your participation will assist in providing CEASD with a holistic understanding of how WSD is supporting our children's educational and developmental goals.

- Feel free to spread the word to other parents/guardians of children attending WSD. There will be light refreshments.
- There will be a list of sample questions sent out next week with the flyers.
- **Question:** Is the feedback requested meant for the school only, or will it be about the cottages as well? **Answer:** This organization supports the school and the cottages. The CEASD team wants to know what is going well, what feedback parents have about the school. This feedback will be incorporated into their report. Other specific cottage comments can be submitted for next month's PSO agenda. We are not sure if the parent panel will be specifically addressing the dorms.

- **Approval of minutes from last meeting:**

- This agenda item was unintentionally skipped.

- **Financial Report from treasurer: Heather Q.**

- Bank acct balance: \$1,308.51
- Looking at banks and credit unions for PSO account.
 - Needs to be a low start-up cost for opening an account. We don't want to spend money if we do not have income right now. Looked at On Point because they give back to students in the area and are like minded with our own goals.
 - Try ICQ?
 - **Question:** Would the PSO prefer for the bank to be more local? Or the lowest fee? Which is more important? **Answer:** a balance between the two: distance and fees

- **Committee Reports:**

- Executive:
- **Interim Secretary (Amelia):** Business License update- Non-profit approval was granted, now we have to apply for a business license in order to file our yearly non-profit report with the state. The PSO approved the \$19 application fee.
- **Interim President (Cynthia):**
- Currently working on a few end of year fundraising plans.
 - We have gotten permission to set up during the second half of F.A.N. night to sell swag from the Terrier World Store.

- We are also working with Dana Miles, who has created a new t-shirt for the PSO to sell. This will be done by order form. We continue to work in forward motion to become a fully staffed and organized group.
- \$250 was approved last month for teacher appreciation. We need money coming in as we spend it on events and fees.
 - **Question:** Do you have volunteers to help sell? **Answer:** Heather and Marely have volunteered, will ask for more as needed.
 - **Question:** Is it possible for people to make donations such as cupcakes to sell at FAN? **Answer:** Not yet, we need to be fully staffed in order to pull that off.
 - **Question:** For people who do not go to FAN, can they order another way? **Answer:** Not yet, no order forms yet. For the T-shirts Dana designed, they will be available via order form, hopefully before the end of the year. Another opportunity to purchase will be at All Star day (May 25).
 - **Question:** Can we sell homemade food at the event? Or food from a local bakery? **Answer:** prepackaged foods are probably fine, but not homemade at this point. A local bakery is okay.
- **Standing: Nominations Committee report**
 - Looking for four nominations for 2023/2024 school year.
 - President: Ashley Wilkins nominated, motion passed by majority vote
 - Treasurer: Heather Quackenbush nominated, motion passed by majority vote
 - VP: Cynthia Duncan and Marely Rodriguez nominated for VP, motion passed by majority vote
 - Secretary: Seven Star nominated, motion passed by majority vote
- **Special: Teacher Appreciation Committee report**
 - May 8-12: Banners and cards presented earlier in the week, food on the 12th.
 - Marely: We have a banner for the middle and high school, and for the elementary school. Students can sign to thank the staff.
 - Last Tuesday in the cafeteria we had banners and cards signed to be presented to staff. These items will be available for signing at FAN night as well. The cards will be delivered to the mailboxes, banners in the office.
 - Notes of encouragement for teachers and staff to be created by Heather and delivered to each building the week of May 8-12.

- Food shopping for 80 people and delivery of items to be managed by Seven Star and Eric. Will need two people to help bring supplies to the school Friday morning and set up. Marely volunteered to help set up.
- Staff arrives at 7:30, if the food is ready when they arrive, they would love that.

- **Old Business:**

- Recent wins:
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- Finish up leftover business from last meeting:
 - Washington State Hands and Voices (Laura Gramer - VP) would like to partner with the PSO in the coming year. They are currently looking for parent volunteers to sit on their board. Please reach out to Cynthia Duncan at psowforwsd@gmail.com for more information.

- **New Business:**

- **Questions/comments/member led new business**

- Standard spot in agenda requested for school updates from Shauna, Jason, and Bill
 - Construction on new Elementary building starting soon, groundbreaking happening June 1st at 1pm. Legislators, other officials and parents will be invited. Students will be invited for the 2nd half. The first half will be thanking the legislators for supporting our school.
 - It will be a lot to work around the construction. When construction starts, parking will be limited. Parents with students in Northrop will start using that parking lot, and the gate will be open.
 - Construction will continue for 15 months with the move in August 2024.
 - **Question:** Will there be a place to send comments for the pick up and drop off process? Parents may have some ideas. **Answer:** Unfortunately, not a lot of flexibility, but am talking about how to keep students safe in the process. Northrop will be used for elementary and busses. You can email Shauna with comments or questions.

- Meeting adjourned: 7:03 pm

Communications Update: *This agenda item was unintentionally skipped at the meeting and this information is being added post meeting.*

WSD approved us to have a PSO zoom account, free of charge, starting fall of 2023 school year. We will use the borrowed one in the meantime. :-)

Marely created our first ASL PSO upcoming meeting announcement (yay!) and we agreed it would be fun to have others join in. The next one will be done by Belle:)

Problems that we wanted to adjust from the last meeting were the sound coming from the people on zoom, someone running the laptop to allow people to come in and keep an eye on the chat, and a clear way to tell who is talking in the room. This meeting sound worked, we had someone to run the laptop and we had video strictly on those that would be signing and interpreting on zoom to voice. Those that were voicing in the classroom would state their make before talking and then talk. Our takeaway from this meeting was to possibly try zoom for all next meeting to see if that gives better access for all.

We are working with WSD to possibly have a "Parents Corner" on the WSD website. There we can house a newsletter, upcoming events at WSD and in the community, crafts, swag, etc.