**Minutes of the Board Meeting of the JSSPVA**

**February 9, 2016**

**In attendance:** Julie Kalainov, Michele Bacik, Kristin Jungbluth, Stephanie Henry, Donna Brunso, Angie Veber, Brooke Timmerman, Kendra Wallace, Paige Hopkins-Reilly, Suzanne Nelson, Kath Lyman, Beth Beeler, Adrienne Weisenberger, Carrie Beeman, Chike Erokwu

The meeting was called to order at 8:33 a.m. by Julie Kalainov, President.

Julie stated that the first order of business was to approve the minutes from the board meeting in January. Kristin Jungbluth motioned to approve the minutes. Kath Lyman seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

**Principal’s Report**

Mrs. Wallace thanked the JSSPVA for sponsoring dinner last night during parent teacher conferences.  Those with full schedules were able to request plates of food to be delivered to their classrooms.  Teachers will be provided with applications for PVA funding requests in March.  These will be submitted to the Mrs. Wallace and the PVA for review in the spring.  I Love Technology Night is scheduled for February 25.  The school has secured Devorah Heitner courtesy of the JSSPVA, and she is thankful for the contribution.  The presentation will focus on choosing apps, how to navigate friendships, and online safely.  Today is 100th day of school, and Mrs. Wallace will be celebrating with the kindergarteners this morning.

**Treasurer’s Report / Past Treasurer’s Report**

Michele Bacik had no new business to report.

**President’s Report**

Julie Kalainov reported.  Chike Erokwu is here observing in today’s meeting.  He is updating the website and will be soliciting feedback soon.  Input will be needed from parents.

**Vice President Reports**

Kath reported the following for the subcommittee chairs:

**Teacher Appreciation:**  Pasta dinner and dessert will be served to teachers on Monday, February 8th during conferences.

**School Pictures:**  New student pictures will be taken on Tuesday, February 9th.  There are 14 new students.

**Communications**

Stephanie asked Chike to please double check that all new students are on her distribution list.  This Friday is the deadline for next week’s newsletter, so please submit anything prior to that date.

**Benefit**

Angie Veber reported that everything is progressing smoothly.  Most service projects are in place, and she is very impressed with all of the parent volunteers and what has been scheduled.

K - TBD

1st grade - Ronald McDonald House

2nd grade - Singing to nursing home patients

3rd grade - Packing food

4th grade - Food project for children with working parents on weekend

5th grade - Providence Englewood Charter School

6th grade - With 5th

7th grade - Walk-a-Thon for Smile Train

Checks are continuing to come in.  Angie is putting together an article for the local newspapers to get the word out, and Kelly Rainey is helping behind the scenes to pull together the block party for May 14th.

**Enrichment**

Paige Hopkins-Reilly reported for the team.  Today 1st grade is having hi tech hi touch presentation on weather.  Later this month, 4th grade will have their pioneer days at The Grove.  5th grade has decided to keep their speaking unit in house and will not be spending $3k of the enrichment budget.  The team has asked if 5th grade would like to schedule anything else, but there are no requests so far.

**FAN**

Brooke Timmerman reported that there are three events coming up in February.  On February 17th, there will be a discussion by a panel of 5 in Evanston titled “The End of Education, The Future of Learning.”  On February 26th, US Senator Corey Booker will be visiting. On February 29th, there will be a presentation by Scott Barry Kaufman, author of *Ungifted: Intelligence Redefined*.  Dates and more information will be included in the next JSSPVA newsletter

**New Trier Liaison**

Donna Brunso had no updates.  Carnival is coming up and details have been shared.

**Nominating**

Stacy Smith reported that the committee will be meeting next week, and she will have updates after that.

**Sears Cafe**

Carrie Beeman had nothing to report.

**Secretary**

Emily Tzur had nothing to report.

**World Link**

Beth Beeler reported that she and Sarah Mohr are finalizing details for the spring fair.  They have confirmation from Urban Gateways for May 2nd.  The Apache healer will be presenting on April 26th.  They are still waiting on the student mariachi band, which is composed of children from the city.

**Other Business**

Kath asked about kids coming home asking for change.  Angie said it is for Smile Train, which is the 7th grade service project.  She will ask parent volunteers to put together a blurb explaining each project so that parents know why the requests are coming in.  She will put together a communication for Stephanie to distribute. Kath also asked when the winner for Principal for the Day be announced.  Angie hasn’t yet looked to see if bids were placed last night.  Graduation seats were already sold at 8th grade party.  There is the possibility to sell Scamper seats at the benefit party, but it wasn't a huge money raiser.

**Community Liaison**

Suzanne Nelson reported on the January Board of Education meeting.  It was a very brief meeting.  Architects from DLA came in and did a brief overview of our plan going forward.  They will start surveying the community, staff, and administration to identify wants and needs requests for the school.  There will be opportunities for people to provide input at various points in the project.  A summary of the school climate survey was presented, and will be included in board briefs.  There were definite strengths identified and also areas for improvement.  There will be a community forum on May 9th.  This will be an event for parents and community members to hear a state of the school update.  The board is hoping to have conceptual drawing and sketches of the construction project to present.  At the meeting, the board received the resignation of Julia Jones.  She started at Sears when the current 8th grade class began kindergarten, and she is ready to move on.  Julie Kalainov asked if key projects have been identified for the construction project.  Suzanne said that the lunchroom and air conditioning are high priorities.  They need to determine feasibility and costs and will look at different combinations of options to determine how to best spend the money.  They will also focus on what can be done to configure classrooms better for a modern learning environment.

Adrienne continued the report.  Enrollment has increased beyond expectations. There are currently 498 students, with 14 new students enrolling since January.  The board is in the process of a curriculum renewal. This is a 5-year cycle, and the committee discusses science, ELA, and math programs.  They are focusing on creating a harmonic curriculum that builds from kindergarten to 8th grade.  We can do lots of surveys and gather information, but we need to focus on what we do with the information.

Julie asked if there was an update on ability awareness. She has heard that it would be run in PE classes. Kendra said they are trying a new model this year and that Anna Pressman and Julia Jones are meeting with her next week to discuss their plans.  Angie asked if we need the position on the JSSPVA next year. Kendra said she thought it was still valuable to have a parent helping drive the project even if it is integrated into PE.

Julie asked about The Alliance, and Adrienne said there were no real updates at this point.  Screen Break will be taking place the second week of March.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 am.

*Respectfully submitted by:*

*---------------------------------------------- ----------------------------------------------*

*Julie Kalainov, President Emily Tzur, Secretary*