

## **JSSVPA – January 12, 2022 (via Zoom) Meeting Minutes**

**Board Attendees:** Robin Stone, Beth Ottsen, Bridget Pennise, Katie Alexander, Eleanor Hussman, Nora Jewett, Joe Guarino, Valerie Gaines, Stephanie Joyce, Amy Hannus, Jennifer Dixton, Janet Scholl

**Regular Attendees:** Betsy Kilroy, Alison Dempsey, Stephanie Helfand, Kate Donegan, Marty Heffner, Lisa Metzger-Mugg

**1. December 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes:** Robin motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Valerie and Bridget. Minutes were approved.

### **2. Principal/Superintendent's Report (Universal Behavior, Social-Emotional Learning, and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) – Rescheduled Q&A): (Marty, Kate and Stephanie)**

As recap, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) is a federal and state-mandated educational initiative that consistently and effectively enables the District to reach that goal. There are 3 levels of support, within MTSS:

Tier 1 - or Core, which is designed to meet all student's needs, and it fluctuates in style and content. More than 80% of Sears students are within Core 1. If students are not responding to Core as expected, then we identify which areas need further development and work on that skill or area. This is a progression.

Tier 2 - it meets the needs of students who are not challenged sufficiently or are not progressing as expected in Tier 1. A support plan is developed, with input from teachers, administration and specialists.

Tier 3 - includes more specific instruction that focuses on a specific skill need, whether that is an accelerated need or a remedial need. Parent communication will be formal at this level.

The Board presentation that was delivered in December was planned in advance, and it was not specific to the timing of any behaviors or specific incidents. This administration is always open to feedback and communication from the parents and we want to maintain this open communication.

**Open the floor to questions for the Administration:**

**Question #1:** can parents see what the content of the presentations that were delivered to the kids, around SEL? This will help us, as parents, understand the messaging and be consistent in how we communicate to our kids on these topics.

**Response:** we presented to all Junior High and covered 3 topics: 1. Hurtful/harmful statements 2. Inappropriate touching 3. Inappropriate communication to teachers/staff. We outlined the 3 steps of correcting these behaviors and consequences of these targeted behaviors. We are now logging incidents, along with attendance, grades, etc., into a system called EduClimber, so we can build on the data, which we have not had before. This allows us to zero in on trends, timing, grade level, etc. to be able to move forward. For example: what types of behaviors are we seeing, on which days/time of the week, which grade level, etc. Moving forward, we can communicate to parents around what messages are being delivered to the kids. Marty delivered a verbal presentation around Tier 1 and a chart, to the kids. From this, regular follow up is happening in Advisory, to remind kids of the points. He also runs a Jr High teacher meeting on Monday's and the teachers transition anything from the behavior plan to the students on Tues/Weds/Thurs/Fri. We want to ensure that the kids are part of this and we hear their feedback, etc.

**Question #2:** Is there an opportunity to include outside resources that have specific skills and training in this area?

Kate advised that Hilary Harvey (SEL coordinator) was hired two years ago, specifically for Tier 1 and 2 SEL. Hilary will also be part of the parent education committee, moving forward.

Kate (update): Kate met with Joe Guarino about putting together a committee around parent education on a variety of topics, for the remainder of this school year, and all of next. JSSPVA members will be part of this committee, along with parents, staff, administrators and a Board rep. If people have topics you are interested in, please let Kate know. This will be rolled out this year, and they are already calendar planning for next year.

If you, or know of anyone who would be interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Kate Donegan.

Also, we received new guidance around COVID, at 8:30pm last night, and will be communicating any changes. We appreciate all the support and communication that the school has received from the school community. When the school receives new guidance, we read it, then there is a webinar to discuss and answer any questions. Sometimes, the guidance will change, after the webinar. After that, we can implement accurately so that we minimize confusion. The school gets the guidance the same time the public does.

**Question #3:** What is the status of the school nurse position?

**Response:** we are working on putting together a substitute nurse schedule, for when substitutes are available. The administration team is sharing the nursing duties and managing the [nurse@kenilworth38.org](mailto:nurse@kenilworth38.org) email address. Dr. De la Cruz is leading the search for a new, full- time nurse. About 6 individuals have reached out, after the Sears to Home request, with options of who may be able to help out in a temporary role. Thank you for your support and cooperation as we work through this, and please pass along any contacts who would be interested.

### **3. President's Report (Robin):**

**a) Support of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Play:** Next month, we will be getting a proposal to support the 8th grade play. It is funded through tickets sales and advertising. This will be impacted due to Covid and we may need to help support this. Stay tuned for a proposal for us to review at the February meeting.

**4. Treasurer (Valerie):** a quiet December. We have not used 50% of our budget, as of yet. Our bigger expenses will be coming in latter part of the year.

Stephanie: no update on the audit, as of yet. The accountants have not reached out yet. Valerie will follow up.

### **5. VP of Sub Committee (Beth):**

Book Fair: \$9,900 in purchases, which translates to \$2,538 in profit for the JSSPVA. Another book fair is coming up in the Spring. 99% of students purchased items, 472 total purchases

Lost and Found: they have not donated any items, as of yet, please get over and look.

Student Pictures: 10 new students will have their pictures taken on Jan 24th. JK-7 composites are not automatically included in packages, you will need to purchase a composite separately. 8th grade is included. Check your Stuart-Rodgers emails to confirm.

Creative Dramatics and Chess: have been working with the park district to prevent any overlap, between the school and park. Sears will not be offering theater going forward, and we will rely on Park to offer this. Chess continues and is very popular. Tuesday morning is Elementary (full with 16 students). Open spots are available in middle school chess (Wednesday mornings, with 8 open slots), if interested. Debate has openings, as well, and has moved to Wednesday after school. Currently, 14 kids are enrolled and 6 open slots remain. We are still looking for a Debate teacher (paid position), please let us know if you know of anyone.

**6. Benefit (Meredith):** - save the date has been sent, for April 29th at WCC. Currently we are working on a general appeal letter for non- Sears parents in our community, to support our fundraising. The letter will speak to how our fundraiser supports for the better education of our students. Brittany and Meredith are on a committee to work on the teacher experience parties and the parent sign-up parties. A blurb will be coming in the next newsletter to explain what the sign-up parties are and we are looking for hosts. We are also looking for another resource to help with this committee and to ensure coverage across all the grades. As of now, the committee has coverage across 5<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and K – please send ideas! Please email any ideas, or items, for live or silent auction items. Budget will be coming out shortly and will be sent to Robin.

**7. VP of Inclusion (Joe):**

Polar Plunge Update: Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> and each student who wants to participate will raise \$100 to do the plunge. The plunge can be slip and slide, sprinkler, and options are being looked at. JSSPVA will provide prizes as incentives to raise money. We will have a discretionary pool to help bump participants along, if they haven't raised the full \$100. Question to group:

should we go ahead with Table of 8 in Feb? Feedback is to push back to April, to minimize any further COVID spread.

**8. Staff Appreciation: (Katie):**

We restocked the teacher's lounge in December (this occurs every other month). Nothing coming up until March, which is teacher/staff appreciation week.

**9. VP Green (Julia):** Treks initiative is still underway, to log your plastic recycling. Any ideas of sustainability in school house, let Julia know.

**10. VP of Community Relations: (Jen):**

Park District: programming is going on and opportunities still exist to for some programming registration.

Girl Scouts: scamper is underway and presentation is January 28th.

Cookie sales are underway, too.

New Trier: webinars are underway for academic programming for next year. Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> are the programming and elective webinars.

January 12<sup>th</sup> is a Covid Booster clinic at Northfield campus, from 3-8:00pm.

FAN (Family Action Network): "14 talks by age 14" webinar is being held on January 24<sup>th</sup>, from 7-8pm.

Lisa: Board update: (from January 10th meeting)

1. Planning of next year's school calendar: This is publicly available on the school website. Planning needed to happen around the construction schedule for next year. The calendar committee is led by a group of teachers, who have met 3 times to look at this, and they then work with the Administration to finalize. The calendar must have 180 days, 176 student attendance days, must have off Labor Day, Election Day and Memorial Day. We have a delayed start this year, to September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to accommodate the construction schedule and the last day is June 9, 2023.
2. Strategic Planning: is ongoing, the Administrative team presented what the priorities are for the District, and the roadmap to be the most effective and successful school. General categories discussed include: the student experience, expanding on the portrait of a graduate work from 2018/19, as well as the culture and climate issues, master facilities

plan and the integrated teacher learning experience. The Board decided against having an outside group come in to assist and the main reason is outside groups tend to start from scratch. We don't want to throw away all of our previous work, from our previous initiatives.

3. Union Negotiations: we did approve the increase of non-union classified staff (3.75%). The KEA union have received the counter from the Board and the next meeting is Jan 26<sup>th</sup>. A lot of movement has occurred, from both sides.

**11. Nominating (Bridget):** our first nominating committee was held on January 11<sup>th</sup> and we sent out the survey last week. So far, we have received 17 responses. Please complete the survey and indicate your areas of interest. We will be spending the next couple of weeks finalizing the JSSPVA Executive Board. Once this is complete, we'll move onto the Sub positions.

**12. Booster: (Amy):** we are working on the survey of the teachers, for equipment that we can potentially provide to the school. Any new equipment needs to be easy to set up and put away, as the intent is not to add more work, but be fun! Also, we will be running a used sports equipment drive in March, and the kids can be involved to clean and refurbish, before we donate. We will be partnering with an outside organization, who will assist with distribution.

If anyone would like Joey the mascot to appear at any event, please let Amy know! The costume is ready to go and we have an enthusiastic student volunteer!

**13. Adjourn:** Robin motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Valerie and Beth. Motion to adjourn approved.

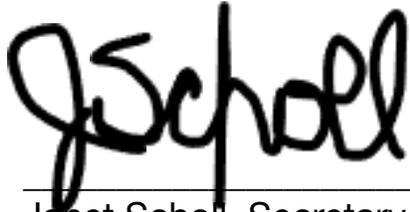
NEXT MEETING: February 16<sup>th</sup>, @ 8:20am \*\* back at Kenilworth Assembly Hall \*\*

Respectfully submitted by:



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Robin Stone, President



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Janet Scholl, Secretary