

## **Shoreline Special Needs PTSA General Membership Meeting Jan. 13, 2016**

**Attendance:** See sign-in sheet

**Location:** Alumni Room, Shoreline Center, Shoreline, WA

Meeting called to order at 7 p.m.

### **Welcoming Remarks:**

President Amy Schley welcomed attendees and reviewed the evening's agenda.

- Nominations were sought for the nominating committee that will identify recommended board members for the 2016-17 school year. The nominating committee will be Katie Rohs, Heidi Farlow and Jennifer Phillips.
- Board vice president Katie Rohs is seeking volunteers to help plan a special education conference for fall 2016. Members were encouraged to let Katie know if they're interested in helping out or providing input.
- Minutes from the Nov. 4, 2015 meeting were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Kirsten Bannister distributed a spreadsheet showing income and expenses through December. Chapter assets at end of 2015 were \$932.74. The chapter's first proceeds since signing up as a charity through AmazonSmile are expected soon.

### **Members At Large Report:**

- Stacie Auger highlighted the value of participating in research studies such as those conducted through the Seattle Children's Research Institute. She indicated this is a great way for families to get great information to support their children (just be sure to look for studies that are actively enrolling to save time in reading through details).
- She also handed out a flier about Feb. 9 youth mental health first aid training being offered by the Center for Human Services.

### **District Announcements:**

Hillary Clark and Scott Irwin provided school district updates. The district is:

- Working to have full-time counselors at all elementary schools by fall.
- Adopting a Positive Intervention Behavior Supports program in all schools. The PIBS program, in coordination with the University of Washington, will focus on supporting all students, not just those receiving special education services.
- Spreading the word that it is actively hiring more bus drivers and will provide training.
- Starting to align policies with the state's new restraint and isolation WACs since these have been finalized.
- Is looking for peer models for the preschool program (working 1-4 p.m. Mondays-Fridays).

### **Guest Presentation:**

We welcomed Amy Huntley from the Washington Autism Advocacy & Alliance (WAAA). She highlighted important items to know to leverage insurance benefits for treatment of autism and other developmental disabilities.

Ms. Huntley's presentation is available on the chapter website.

**Fund-Raiser:**

The meeting concluded with the annual white elephant gift raffle, with \$1 ticket proceeds going to the chapter.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes submitted by Jennifer Phillips, chapter secretary.