

Parent Association Statement of Purpose

Our purpose is to incorporate parents into Bright Water Waldorf School's committed, thriving community, and to help them build and maintain the success of the school. The Parent Association helps facilitate socially inclusive relationships through shared conversations, events, and community-building. Moreover, the PA is dedicated to making these experiences positive for all staff, parents, and students. We believe strongly in the unifying power of dialogue and community.

PA responsibilities include collaboration with the administration and faculty to support the BWWS community in the following areas:

- Welcoming new families to BWWS
- Listening to and reflecting upon parent concerns and questions
- Developing and organizing social/community-building opportunities
- Developing tools to promote parent education

We are here to connect parents with one another, and to share in discussion, development, and social bonding. All parents with children enrolled in BWWS are members of the PA. The PA leadership consists of the Parent Association Coordinating Team (PACT). The PACT is comprised of 3-5 parent volunteers who provide leadership to the PA.

***Our meetings will be conducted in a friendly and gracious way that honors and respects that we are all volunteering our time and energy in the effort of supporting our school and community. We will honor and respect everyone in the room, including any children who are attending. We will have our speaking be respectful of everyone in attendance at the meeting and consistent with an educational environment.

Parent Association Meeting December 6th,

PA Leadership (PACT)

PA Chair- Jen Diamond

Communications Chair -Stephanie Vuolo

Bulletin Board Coordinator - Melissa Lang Lytle and Rizza Rawcliffe

******PA Treasurer-** manages the budget, reports to PA as needed, supports process of implementing PA “dues.”

Parent Education Chair- Shelly Gerson

*******Elevating Conversations of Diversity and Inclusion-** attend committee meetings and report back to PA,

Volunteer Coordinators-Kim Gonzalez and Sandra Hinsley-

8:15-8:20 arrivals

8:20-8:30 coffee and get settled

8:30-8:40 Reading the statement of purpose ~ actions taken toward 4 roles.

**Discussion around communication, calendar info, being proactive and anticipating volunteer needs for things like Grandparents Day Etc. If you have suggestions on how to make things better, email Jen.

Welcoming New Families- Tricia Burley, 7th Grade Dinner,

Listening to and reflecting upon parent concerns and questions.

- Met with Sam Blackman of the board.
- Will be meeting with John Healy.
- Diversity of students and teachers and staff- work on committee
 - Resource library
 - Creating a Festival

Developing and organizing social/community-building opportunities

- January 17th Parent Association Potluck! And Discussion
- Acknowledgement and thank you for people who brought delicious refreshments to the grandparents and special friends day and the Alumni panel.

8:40-8:55 Parent Ed Events Set UP (Shelly Gerson sgerson@blairhalladvisors.com)-

Michael Preston 12/12~ 8:30-10 any support needed?

Jenna Allison Boys Alive 2/6~ 8:30-10 any support needed? Discussion about \$10 suggested donation to attend event to compensate the speakers, the Boys Alive Speaker costs about \$400 Calling New families, Shelly/ Melissa offered to call and reach out to new families.

Red Tent Fundraiser on Thursday March 1 Planning- (Melissa Lang Lytle melissalanglytle@gmail.com)- any support needed?

Communities around the world have been organizing and hosting Red Tents as a special place for mothers to share their birth stories, celebrate birth experiences, and heal from traumatic ones. The goal of every Red Tent is to create sisterhood and connected community, record our stories, and practice deep listening. This event is for sharing birth stories, ALL birth stories (yes belly births and adoptions!) There is not one way to birth or a right way to birth. This Red Tent is non- judgmental space to share ourselves in a deeper way and listen with compassion, empathy and total support. Come share or listen.

8:55-9:05 Diversity and Inclusion Committee Update- Resource Library, Imbuing Festivals with cultural consciousness, Festival Celebrating our Community

Re: Diversity what's our philosophy what are we doing to support our community. What and how are we going to take action on. Dr. Ghosh recommends reading the book Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

9:05-9:15 Administration Update- Dr. Ghosh- Community Fund Update?

9:15-9:25 Parent Association Representative Roles Discussion

- Promoting parent involvement/attendance in and at school events
- Attending Parent Association Meetings
- Participating in the work of the PA
- Sharing the notes from the PA, sharing relevant information at class meetings

9:25-9:30 Fridays in the Sky Room 8:15-10:00am **Stitch and Enrich!** (jen@diamondfamily.org)

- 15 people in attendance
- Lively and excited
- December 8th Next Meet up

9:35-9:45 Gala Update, Sugar Plum Faire Update,

Topics for next Meeting, Questions, Feedback- please email jen@diamondfamily.org

Please Join Us!

Our Future Meeting Schedule 2018

1/17 6:30 pm Potluck and Tentative Speaker on Diversity

2/14 8:30 am

3/14 8:30 am

4/25 6:30 pm

5/9 8:30 am

6/6 8:30 am Parent Association Recognition Brunch