

Parent Association Meeting February14

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,- Jen Diamond

Volunteer Coordinators-Kim Gonzalez and Sandra Hinsley-

8:20-8:30 coffee and get settled

One of the opportunities of the Parent Association meeting is to get in communication with other parents with questions and possible concerns or questions about our experience in our classes and in our community as a whole. We started the meeting sharing some of the parents' feedback with Bryan McGriff and Dr Ghosh. Thank you to all who participated.

8:30-8:35 Reading the Statement of Purpose- (See last page of this document)

Thank you for all you are doing!

8:35-8:50 Parent Ed Feedback (Shelly Gerson sgerson@blairhalladvisors.com)-

Dr. Ghosh: We need to return to parent education. Consistency of how to bring systematic education to parents about Waldorf education. There is a hunger and a need. Community of parents who come for Waldorf education/ others come because it is best for their children. How to pull folks in to Waldorf. Challenge for us as an urban school, with busy families.

Michael Preston 12/12~

Boys Alive 2/6~

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

All women are welcome to a private, special event. That will hopefully deepen our experience with one another. We are creating a circle; this could move and shake our spirit to create a sense of community.

If you have any questions please contact Melissa.

8:50-8:55 Diversity and Inclusion Committee Update- (Jen Diamond jen@diamondfamily.org)

- working to hire consultant for faculty training and parent workshop
- successful parent potluck discussion
- faculty reflection and bringing into the curriculum

8:55-9:00 Safety of our School- Crosswalk Update

Parents and staff have been working with SDOT to improve the safety of the crosswalk on 10th Ave.

SDOT is evaluating: increasing the length of the walk signal, adding a pause between the red light/ walk signal, repainting the crosswalk, and other measures to minimize the large number of cars going through the red light and even around cars stopped at the red light.

Further, we are coordinating with the Seattle Police to monitor the intersection for red light violators and those not obeying the 20 mph law when students are present.

Teachers, students, and parents are advised to be alert in the intersection and to teach the children about the imperative importance of staying within the crosswalk lines/ monitoring for cars at all times.

We are hoping to create a crossing protocol for teachers to follow for all midday crossings.

9:00-9:20 Bryan McGriff and Self Study- work with PA 3-5 questions that come from the parents

Principle 5 of the 7 Core Principles (AWSNA Principles for Waldorf Schools)
See for the Entire 7

https://waldorfeducation.org/Customized/Uploads/ByDate/2016/August_2016/August_16th_2016/3a_School_Principles11507.pdf

5. The conscious development of human relationships fosters individual and community health. Enduring human relationships between students and their teachers and among the children themselves are at the heart of Waldorf Education. The teacher's task is to work with the developing individuality of each student and with each class as a whole within the context of the entire school. These relationships gain in depth and stability when they are cultivated over multiple years. Healthy human relationships with and among parents and colleagues are essential to the well-being of the school. Members of the community are invited to join in developing meaningful, collaborative, transparent forms for working together. Each individual's self-development is encouraged since it is key to the well-being of the whole.

The discussion we aim to have at the next PA meeting will focus on the Self Study and discuss the following:

Where does this live for you?

What is the reality and practicality of this at our school?

Where are we right now?

Parents have experienced some growth as a part of being in this community?

Engage in this question

9:20-9:25 Parent Association Representative Roles- **Please forward the notes via email- if you aren't going to do that let me know so I can.**

- 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 via email to you class, sharing relevant information at class meetings

9:25-9:30 Gala Update-Buy your Tickets! Buy a Table!!!

We need your help!

<https://brightwaterschool.ejoinme.org/donate>

Procurement for this year's auction has had super strong internal engagement and we are wrapping up in the next week or so.

That said, going over the numbers last night we'd feel more secure with a few additional offerings.

Please encourage your classes and friends to **use the link above** to easily donate something-- even if it's small and may not be that high in value it can likely be 'packaged' with a few other things to make it desirable!

Let's get the early childhood program involved in this too.

Below are some examples to get ideas rolling:

- vacation homes, air b&b stays
- concert tickets--(ie Chateau St. Michele)
- Hamilton Tickets!!!??cider tastings/ autumn offerings
- ski passes
- Any offerings for a buy-in party (a shared community experience in which one buys a ticket at a set price.)
- Wine!
- Specialty items (ie art, artisan goods)
- Restaurant experiences (which are great paired with theater tix)

Thanks for your help in getting the word out. Again, we're hoping to have commitments wrapped as soon as possibly and by the end of next week.

Future Parent Association Meetings

3/14 8:30

4/25 6:30 pm

5/9 8:30 am

6/6 8:30 am Parent Association recognition brunch

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

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

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.