

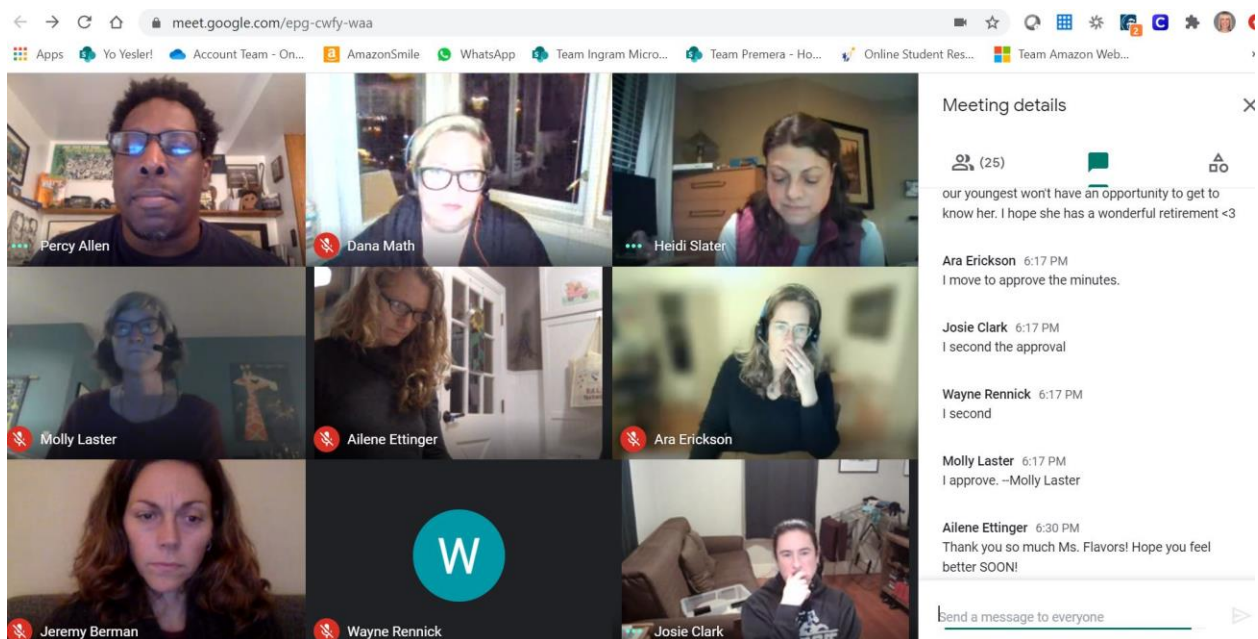
Friends of Hawthorne Meeting – final minutes

11/10/20 6pm – 7:30pm via Google Meet

Attendees: Dana Math & Percy Allen– President; Casey Gregory – co-vice-presidents, Ara Erickson & Josie Clark – co-Treasurers; Corin Lianides - Secretary, Gabe Sheffer– member-at-large. Plus 20+ community/PTA members.

Percy welcomed all to the meeting, sharing agenda. Congratulating KHT on her political win and Ms. Joyce's retirement.

Corin Lianides: Meeting minutes reviewed and approved; verbally and in writing, via Google Meet chat (screenshot below).



The screenshot shows a Google Meet chat window with the following details:

- Meeting details:** (25) participants, chat icon, and a share icon.
- Chat messages:**
 - our youngest won't have an opportunity to get to know her. I hope she has a wonderful retirement <3
 - Ara Erickson 6:17 PM: I move to approve the minutes.
 - Josie Clark 6:17 PM: I second the approval
 - Wayne Rennick 6:17 PM: I second
 - Molly Laster 6:17 PM: I approve. –Molly Laster
 - Ailene Ettinger 6:30 PM: Thank you so much Ms. Flavors! Hope you feel better SOON!
- Participants:** Percy Allen, Dana Math, Heidi Slater, Molly Laster, Ailene Ettinger, Ara Erickson, Jeremy Berman, Wayne Rennick, Josie Clark.

Ms. Flavors (Asst. Principal) is here to give us an update. Conferences are happening, teachers have voted and they will occur wed Nov 18 from 2-6:30 and Nov 23rd from 8-6:30 and Nov 24. Teachers will contact families to schedule, and they will happen over Teams. Some teachers are flexible in case those dates don't work – they push for 100% of families for conferences. No school that week K-5. In conferences: how's the child doing, positives, challenges, etc. No normal assessments are available, so there are other screeners the district provided. Report cards (first tri ends Dec 1), will be available to families through the Source (SPS online), by or before Dec 18. There will be both letter/number and comments. Encourage families to create a Source account in the case they do not have one, great tool to use, lots of information.

Another item is the Specialist classes/schedule. We have PE/Art/Music – yes, no one is penalized if not attending, but these classes are still required as all others are. Encourage children to attend those – they are included in the report card as well. There are state standards for PE, for example. If you can attend,

please do. The specialists are not able to normally see as many of the kids as they would do if they were in the building, so the week of the Nov 30, the specialist time will not change, but what they get may change – the schedule shift is to enable consistent amount of minutes through the year across all classes.

Tech Updates: Encouraging families to access SeeSaw through Clever, because some kids have gotten stuck in other schools when logging on. Clever is the most reliable way to get online properly. Tech centers have been extended in a couple of the locations for families – they were able to extend to 6p in a couple of the locations for access.

Spread the word – from 1-3pm we have FRIDAY FOOD BAGS. The utilization has been small. We want to increase, not sure if its related to the time, etc. We can adjust time if needed, **feedback wanted.** Paula Murray is the helping with rent support, exams, medical, utilities, food, clothes, are seeing a SMALL CASE LOAD and we know there is a need out there – it's all confidential (no info shared), please send folks their way if they need support! Food support and gift cards, students can also shop at JC Penney (51 cards worth \$150 each) – only have a list of 15 kids – we know more kids need it- **send email to Ms. Flavors and/or Paula Murray if you know someone or need support yourself.**

Katie Berman – Advocacy Rep for FOH

District 7 group of PTA leaders/advocacy reps from various south end schools – meet with Brandon Hersey, school board rep

(https://www.seattleschools.org/district/school_board/meet_the_board/district_seven).

It's been informative and great – he's focused heavily on equity issues. Chief Public Affairs, ELL director – comms coming from SPS and what families are actually receiving. Translation issues for non-English speakers. General overwhelm of emails. SPS talked about a few tools they have – they are redoing their website, want our feedback about making collab and communication better. This group also wrote a letter to nutrition services, issues around food service, how they are getting food, what the barriers are – again a lot of issues to bring to SPS to ask them to work on. Meeting with them in the next couple of weeks – **please provide any feedback as to why folks aren't showing up to bus routes or to school for pickup. Why are families are not taking advantage of the huge amount of food that is available? If you have thoughts on how to more broadly reach families, please share!**

Molly Laster idea – perhaps teachers can share out this information in conferences since they are trying to get 100% participation. Dana Math idea – print off flyer – can we have teachers share that electronically with the families in the batch of materials they share during conferences or at other times. Josie Clark: Working with Paula Murray may be super helpful as well!

WSPTA legislative assembly in October – there were about 9 of us from the South end, more than have ever been – great representation. Important issues were all passed, top 5 will be focused on for the next 2 years. Katie outlined top 5 ([can find on WSPTA site](#)).

There's a lot of work around race and equity going on, if anyone is interested in working on any of these mostly Seattle city council PSTA – **please reach out to Katie (katherinecbowman@gmail.com)! Percy sat**

in on the SCPTSA meeting re: anti-racism policy, great discussion on this, and also on Superintendent Denise Juneau and Title 1 schools. Percy will put link into chat:

Playground update? Peter wants to thank everyone in getting it all ready for everyone – going to send a wrap up email and a planning email. Phase 2 is just about done, final payments done. Ready to go to next phases and we will want more volunteers to shoulder the load. Peter will be looking to recruit more volunteers!

Garden update – Dana Math

Conversation about how to make the garden easier to maintain – requires heavily dedicated volunteers. Access to the garden is a hurdle, as well as getting water to the garden. Bringing it up here – **who wants the garden? Is it the teachers? Is there an appetite from the classrooms to keep this going? Or should it be parked (maybe until post-COVID)?** Garden has poor sightlines from playground and is also not accessible. Molly has also brought up general access to the playground – since it was also built with Community Neighborhood funds, not just SPS funds.

Could we repurpose the Hawthorne garden be repurposed into a community p-patch? Could we redistribute it as a community area? Contractor lock box? Maybe even have it be a fundraiser? Would need to work with the school district due to regulations – self-help program (Ara).

Garden is still intended to be used for curriculum – we shouldn't try to go rogue here, work within existing systems and groups.

Ailene Ettinger – After School Enrichment

Grappling if they should do anything considering remote school situation. Maybe work with a few vendors for January to do something virtual. It might offer a different chance for students to connect with each other. No idea on enrollment size. Would choose likely 3-4 vendors that already offer online classes. Should still have scholarship finds available from last year. Need to work with Treasurer to make sure were on the same page and that past processes will work. **Anyone has any thoughts or ideas, please reach out!**

Treasurers report – Josie Clark

This past month, FOH money has gone to 3rd grade – storyteller from tribe – using artist in residence funds. Also spending on teacher subscriptions (remote learning tools, RAZ kids, etc.) and Safeway cards for families. Nature Bridge refund came back due to no 5th grade camp. Mask and Tamale sale brought in about \$2500 total – but brought a welcome touchpoint to the school.

Shoutout to Emelie Crumbaker for supporting all the tamale fundraisers and help make things work online! Schools supplies – 13k spent, got back about 6k. It was money well spent, call it a wrap on the calling for donations on the school supplies.

New business: Heidi Slater, update on school crossing grant application

She is working to get a 4-way stop at Cascadia and Dakota. Only option to is to get a Safe Routes to School grant. **Please share any documents on any efforts that have been made to improve safety around the school with Heidi.** Meeting on Friday to put this intersection on their list. She has applied or the grant – cross walk flags and refresh of mural in the road to call more attention to the school. **She would also like enrollment information to support the case.** School is still in use for other times – food, packet pick-ups, library, etc. 2 grants are available thru the city – COVID relief and a Mini grant – **please let her know if you have an idea of something \$1000 could go toward.** hydiho@gmail.com. Molly also brought up the idea around making the street there 1 way for safety for drop offs.

Dana Math – general updates

- District rezoning update. There is a survey about possibility of rezoning regarding Mercer Middle School. See email from SPS. No other action/info there yet.
- Title 1 – we barely qualified this year, and all signs point to NO for after next year. **What would that mean for the next year? Need someone to volunteer to find out what the impacts are on the school – budgets, etc. How we might need/want to up our reserve/coffers.**
- Book Fair with 3rd Place books – February 15th – all online. **Will need a volunteer to coordinate with 3rd place and Ms. Campbell.**
- Hawthorne received a 7k grant for ART! Each student will receive a robust art kit to keep at home for remote! More to come on that.
- Seattle Children’s theater – for 5th graders in January. 3rd grade also with Macha Theatre Works.
- Communication update: working on ways to consolidate and streamline. SO many channels. FOH tools, mostly managed by parents. Newsletter, backpack mail just started, from school directly. Seesaw is also a great resources – Ms. Flavors, support workers – make sure you are checking there.

Phelana Pang – Guest Speaker on remote Learning. Asst dean of school at Seattle Girls School

Great challenge with learning happening in our homes, involves mistake making and struggle – hard to watch our kids struggle in our homes. But this is “Productive Struggle,” and this helps students because they need to be in the “pit of learning” – the really hard part – but the only way to really learn is to go through the pit and climb out of it. Remembering that it’s OK to support these challenges in our home, giving space for kids to struggle - permission to not try to fix all the problems for your child. Help them try to figure out the resources they have, how to ask questions, how to advocate for themselves within the system they are working. Also, our kids absorb a lot of our emotions – during this time of challenge and uncertainty – need to take care of ourselves as caretakers so we are able to model good behavior, problem solving, etc. Remaining calm and neutral. Lisa Damour, author– *Untangled* and *Under Pressure*.

www.drlisadamour.com/resources

7:33pm Percy closed out the meeting. – next meeting is in December, will be a Board Meeting.

MS flavors needs:

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Ms. Flavors has asked the Hawthorne community to spread the word about community support the school is offering! There has been less utilization of support services than expected and we would like to make sure that everyone is both aware of the support offered, and can provide feedback if the support is not as accessible as it needs to be, is at the wrong times, etc.

- FRIDAY FOOD BAGS – available from 1pm - 3pm every Friday at Hawthorne. Food bags to take home for the weekend. If this time or location does not work well, please provide feedback, as they are happy to make adjustments.
- FAMILY SUPPORT – Hawthorne has services and funds available to help with rent support, exams, medical costs, utilities, food (grocery cards), gift cards, and clothes. Use of these services is 100% CONFIDENTIAL, no information is shared.
- \$150 JC PENNEY GIFT CARDS – Hawthorne was gifted 51 JC PENNEY gift cards to provide to it's community in need, but currently only have a small list of students to provide to.

Please email Ms. Flavors and our Family Support person Paula Murray if you or someone you know is in need, or if you have any feedback on how to ensure these programs are more fully utilized.

eaflavors@seattleschools.org and XXXX (ms. Murray's email address – I can't find)

December

12/8/2020



Friends of Hawthorne PTA
October Meeting
10/6/2020 6pm – 7:30pm