**PTA Meeting Minutes**

**February 11, 2015**

Present: Jen Ayers, Iain Mourer (Treasurer), Mary Murray (President), Maureen Merrill, Karen Rosenberg (Co-Secretary), Lindsay Zaccara (Communications and Co-Secretary), Molly Laster (Vice-President), Katie Welsh, Kris Baldassin (CDSA Hawthorne Director), Eileen Gray, Sandra Scott, Katie Davis, Doris Pereyra, Chrystal Williams, Jon Joy, Marcela Serritos Aguilar (Vice-President), Kelly Rolon, Ruben Rolon, Ede Courtenay, Pauline Bariola, Pete Intravartolo (Powerful Schools)

**General Update**

Katie and Dave Seawall are on the Nomination Committee. If you are interested in running for an FOH PTA Board position for the 2015-16 school year, please fill out the form here: <http://www.friendsofhawthorne.org/nomination-form>.

Hawthorne is hosting “Smarter Balance Night” on Thursday, February 26 from 6:00-7:00pm. Smarter Balance is a new state exam for students in grades 3-8. Come learn about the exam and how to “beat” it. Childcare provided.

Community members who complete training can participate in interviewing new teacher candidates at Hawthorne. In order to participate, people must pre-register and attend one of the following sessions:

Thursday, March 12 - Room 2700

Tuesday, April 7 - Room 2700

Thursday, May 14 - Auditorium

Tuesday, June 9 - Room 2700

Trainings are held from 4:00-5:00 at John Stanford Center for Educational Excellence, 2445 Third Ave S, Seattle, WA 98124. To register, email full name, email address, phone number and session date to SEA@washingtonea.org.

Powerful Schools is having its annual Start Strong Luncheon on Monday, March 16, 2015 at the Westin Hotel in downtown Seattle. Contact Pete Intravartolo (pete@powerfulschools.org) for more information.

Eileen Gray reports that on every tour she has done for prospective families this year (more than 20 so far), parents tell her that current FOH families are vocal about their love, support and passion for Hawthorne. She encourages the FOH community to keep up the good work on neighborhood listserves, social media and in person conversations.

Molly Laster moved to approve the minutes for the 1/21 meeting. Katie Davis seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Special Topic: Safety in and around School**

Meeting participants broke into groups to generate questions for Hawthorne administrators Principal Sandra Scott and Business Officer Eileen Gray. After small group work, the meeting participants reconvened for a large group discussion.

Principal Scott reported that she is concerned about traffic safety at drop-off and pick-up. She is asking for the Hawthorne community to help ensure the safety of students by following the parking and walking rules at drop-off and pick-up. These include not crossing in the middle of the street, not walking children between buses and not parking in the bus-loading zone.

Members discussed safety issues at the intersection of Genesee and Cascadia. Although there is a marked crosswalk and flags, cars frequently speed through the intersection and do not slow down or stop even when an adult waves a flag. For students who stay after school for classes or CDSA, no crossing guard is present when they return home.

Other vehicle issues reported include: cars blocking resident driveways and concerns about car prowling/break-ins. Members discussed history of traffic issues at Hawthorne, including work with the nonprofit Feet First and previous traffic safety studies. Molly Laster gave an update on the planned mural for the intersection of Cascadia and Dakota: after design work to make the Hawthorne phoenix logo look more birdlike, the updated logo will be painted on the street.

Principal Scott discussed protocol when there is a violent incident outside of the school. Seattle Public Schools security notifies Hawthorne administration about the situation as well as what action the school needs to take (e.g., shelter-in-place or lockdown). Shelter-in-place refers to protocol where students and staff can move around the school but do not leave the building; lockdown refers to students and staff remaining in their rooms with no student movement in the school. Hawthorne can also order a voluntary shelter-in-place. Hawthorne has safety drills for students and seeks to walk the fine line between preparing students without alarming them. Staff has received some training on how to handle violent situations such as an active shooter on site.

Members discussed procedures for adults entering Hawthorne – all visitors should sign in at the school office. Members then discussed how to increase safety at Hawthorne. Ideas included installing a buzzer at the front door; locking the front door; replacing the light bulbs in the playground; installing additional lighting in the playground; locking the doors to the playground; installing a keypad to enter the playground from Cascadia Street.

Members asked about how bullying is addressed at Hawthorne. Principal Scott described an individualized process that involved talking with students; using Hawthorne’s social emotional curriculum to help students understand the impacts of their actions; and, when necessary, implementing appropriate consequences.

Members asked about staffing levels at recess. Principal Scott reported that a minimum of 3 staff members supervise each recess period. Other topics discussed include how to talk with children about stranger danger and recent community police presentations to Hawthorne students.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30. Next meeting is March 4, 6:00-7:30. It’s an “officers working meeting” and all are welcome.