 **General Meeting January 23, 2018**

**16 Members Present:** Torrey Edwards, Liza Yore, Melissa Johnson, Kimberly Richards, Stephanie Moen, Scott McNeil, Sarah Kennedy-Shunn, Sarah Newell, Barbara Forsman, Denise Need, Diana Christiansen, Bridget Scott, Kerrie Heller, Stefanie Johnson, Becky Schock, Denise Waters

**4 Guests:** Dr. Reid (Superintendent), Lydia Sellie (Exec Director Business Services), Lisa Youngblood Hall (Director of Communications), Patsy Treece (Citizens for Northshore Schools)

Called to order by President Liza at 6:37pm.

Melissa Johnson motioned to approve the minutes from the last General Meeting, May 23, 2017. Denise Need seconded. Approved.

**Presentation on Bonds and Levies by the District**Dr. Reid was joined by colleagues from the District to present the contents and context of the bonds and levies coming up in the February election. Highlights included:

1. We saw the single largest year of growth ever, with 700 new students.
2. We have 94 home languages.
3. We had the second most successful 9th graders (behind only Mercer Island)
4. NSD has a tradition of keeping promises - completing projects on time and under budget.
5. While 84% of our area’s eligible voters are registered, only 29% voted in the last election.
6. Levies (= Learning) require 50% +1 to pass and are staggered over 4 years.
7. Bonds (=Buildings) require 60% +1 to pass and are sold as needed, typically 10-20 years.
8. Facilities are audited every 2 years.
9. Prop 1 has a broader impact, Prop 2’s direct impact to us would be security-centered (limiting access via fencing, locks, lighting, cameras?), and Prop 3 would potentially see a 1:1 ratio for technological devices, with each K-5 classroom maybe having their own cart.

**Principal’s Report**Principal Waters reported on some of her items of focus as she has settled into her position. Although there has been a heavier emphasis on parts #2 and #3 of the Strategic Plan, we are of course working on all of them. She has started some great conversations with neighboring Elementaries where they can create a supportive community. While the recent boundary moves helped bring our changing demographic to attention, it’s actually a trend that has been growing over the last 6 years, and did not see significant shift with the boundary adjustment. So we’re playing a little bit of catch up to make sure we’re fully supporting our school’s diversity. The largest portion of time was spent reporting on the 3rd Grader’s ELA scores from last year, which were surprisingly low. It was not district-wide either, and there’s reason to believe through other methods of observation that it is a continuing concern, so there is work underway to facilitate growth in that area. Another area that testing brought to her attention was the WA Kids K readiness surveys - while our classes are coming in high on ready to read, we are low in the social area, and very low in the cognitive area. She then shared some changes that have been implemented in an attempt to grow in those areas, and we will continue to monitor progress.

**President and Co-President’s Report**
Liza listed the names of the nominating committee for discussion and voting:

1. LEAD: Sarah Newell
2. Sarah Brittingham
3. Krista Hines
4. Sarah Krekow (Alternate)
5. Sarah Kennedy-Shunn (Alternate)

Sarah KS motioned to approve all. Melissa seconded. Approved.

**Treasurer’s Report**Kimberly Richards handed out reports for our review. All seemed well. Denise wanted to verify there were indeed funds for a 4th Grade Math Club, which Kim said yes, but would verify for sure and the amount with her.

**Ways and Means Report**Torrey Edwards reported on progress of the Auction Planning Committee. Things being well underway and keeping to a low budget, the estimated $10,000 set aside for a smaller affair feels insufficient, and she requested it be raised to $15,000, still much lower than the two most recent auctions. Denise motioned to increase it accordingly, Scott seconded. Approved.
In continuing to look forward toward procurement, there was a suggestion that we survey parents about what sorts of items they’d be excited to bid on.

**Advocacy**Focus Day is January 29, which is part of an extended Advocacy Week now. Be in touch with Charla if you would like to attend/participate.

**Family Life and Health**The Dance was successful and we are in full swing for the Talent Show. Some concern was voiced that the time they’d seen advertised was 4pm for the Wednesday rehearsals, but we have Early Release those days at 2:30pm. Torrey verified it is indeed reserved correctly.

**Community Outreach**Food drives are in the works. Melissa mentioned that her Girl Scout Troop would like to connect with Sarah Newell to see about supporting it.

**Enrichment Report**Everything is going well, but there are still some openings in Chess and Piano.

**Special Needs Representative**Denise noted a wish to consider offering headphones at the next Dance for those with sensory issues. And a general desire to continue to think of such things in advance of future events.

**Other Business**Citizens NS made a passing note of financial support from the PTA being appreciated. Denise moved to give them $50 which felt in line with other PTAs, some discussion ensued, Bridget seconded the motion. It did not pass.

**Adjourned at 8:34pm.**