

## Bryant PTSA Meeting

March 11, 2025

### Agenda Item

**Present:** Matt Hunt, Marika VanderSmith, Alison Bettles, Kerry Billingham, Maggie Dreifuerst, David McKnight, Michael Polin, Leah Rutman, Tiffany Courtnage, Anna Bonnett, Alex Jones, Ashok Reddy, Sarah Rorick, Rich Chang, Nina Mettler, Katie Hurley, Damon Aguos, David Schneider, Linsey Seibel, Bryan Seibel, Cathy Sullivan, Jackie Eckhardt, Annie Wegrich, Danielle Del Rosario, Tiffany Clark, Amana O-Shannassy, Heather Izumi, Snehal Shah, Brent Werness, Kathleen Khoo, Emily Hoover, Christine Hunt, Jinna Lee, Stacy Eriel, Tyler Slane, Paul Carly, Rajesh Ramen, Lissa Yu, Michelle Seo, Drew Frank, Chris Dubois, Katie Salisbury

### Standard Items (Matt Hunt and Marika VanderSmith)

- Land Acknowledgement
- International Women's Day
- Approval of Minutes
  - David McKnight made a motion to approve the minutes of the Feb 2025 meeting minutes as presented; Tiffany Courtnage seconded the motion; the motion passed.
- Upcoming Events
  - Auction: March 28-April 4
  - Art Night: April 3
  - HIP Packing Party for K/5th grade: March 27
  - Choir Performance at the Mariners game: April 25
  - Bryant Blast: May 3
  - Science Night: May 15

### Principal's Update (Dr. Marshall)

- Total enrollment projected for next year is 488. Based on this projection, the District will fund .5 FTE librarian; .5 FTE Assistant Principal; 22 teachers; .2 ELL teacher
  - Will likely hire for either a new 3rd or 4th grade teacher
  - Dr. Marshall thinks the projection for special education students is lower than what student population will end up being since it does not include kids in the process of getting a 504/IEP or private school attendees who receive SPED support at Bryant
  - Dr. Marshall believes our actual enrollment in the fall will likely be enough to get a full Assistant Principal
  - Our ELL allotment has gone down which means that the ELL teacher will need to collaborate more with classroom teachers instead of pullout or push in services.
  - The Staff voted to allocate teachers as follows given our allocation: 4 classrooms for K; 4 classrooms for 1st; 4 classrooms for 2nd; 4 classrooms for 3rd; 3 classrooms for 4th and 3 classrooms for 5th
  - Based on the District allotment, Dr. Marshall is asking for PTSA funding for additional library teacher hours, a literacy expert teacher, tech teacher and library assistant
- The District has reversed course on its former decision to sunset the cohort program for Highly Capable. Dr. Marshall noted that the teacher presentation at tonight's meeting will in part focus on how HC identified kids are served at Bryant in the neighborhood school model.

### Presentation on Differentiation and Universal Design for Learning (Mr. Jones, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Eeds, Ms. Salisbury)

- Ms. Johnson and Ms. Eeds shared how they use UDL in 1st grade, using the Animal research project kids complete at the end of the year as an example. They illustrated how kids can choose to use different methods such as a poster, book, powerpoint, etc to illustrate their learning. They also provide at home extension activities such as building a model of the animal habitat to enrich learning.

- Ms. Salisbury shared how differentiation is used to teach math in 4th grade. All kids have the opportunity to choose mild, medium or spicy practice problems. Small groups are fluid and can be reconstituted based on where kids are at with learning certain concepts. Kids are also provided additional enrichment work such as 'pick a project' and can choose whether to complete their work independently, with a partner, or in a small group with teacher support.
- Mr. Jones discussed the makeup of Bryant's students. Based on last year's MAP scores, 58% of Bryant students are scoring above the 80% mark and 20% are scoring between 60% and 80%. He noted that Bryant is a school that trends higher in MAP scores.
- The difference between the cohort model and neighborhood school model for serving HC identified kids was discussed. The cohort school model has kids work 2 grade levels above in math and 1 grade level above in literacy. The neighborhood school model provides differentiation, but not acceleration. Kids in neighborhood schools will go deeper in current grade level content but not move to next grade level content.
- It was also noted that IXL is no longer provided because the District has asked teachers to use the program SuccessMakers which is curriculum aligned instead. The removal of IXL was not due to PTSA funding

**Treasurer's Update, Presidents Update, and Advocacy Update**

- Due to time limitations, these agenda items were tabled and the meeting was adjourned.