

**John Hay Partners/Foundation Board Meeting
Minutes**

October 15, 2015, 5:30pm

The meeting was opened by Olivia Northcott Johnson and Colleen LaMotte and called to order at 5:30 PM on Thursday, October 15th 2015.

PRESENT	
Olivia Northcott Johnson	Lynn Baker
Joanna Mattson	Colleen LaMotte
Lee Scovern	Karen Halazon
Dina Ringer	Rachel Nelson
Dell Monson	Miranda Wilde
Tami Beach	De-Arne Schmidt
Allison Shannon	Jenna Warburton
Beth Brooks	Guests:
Libby Mansour	Melanie Mitchell
Emily Hamilton	Matt Gangemi
Kryisia Johnson	Lisa Moore - Queen Anne Helpline

Introductions:

Miranda Wilde, Assistant Program Manager at Kids-Co attended in place of Kate, who is leaving soon. Miranda will be the next Program Manager, starting a couple weeks from now.

Queen Anne Helpline - Lisa Moore:

- Purpose of her visit is to describe the work QA Helpline does, and inform meeting attendees about the need in our community, despite its reputation as an area that is more affluent than most. QA Helpline provides assistance to neighbors who don't have a safety net. For example, the number of seniors in our community who are asking QA Helpline for help has increased 45% over last year.
- Three years ago QA Helpline realized kids receiving free meals at school were going hungry over the weekend. The Helpline partnered with Ballard Food Bank to provide healthy, kid-friendly food that kids can discreetly carry home on Fridays. They currently serve 63 students throughout the neighborhood, 32 at John Hay. Anyone who applies is accepted into the program.
- Lisa hopes we will refer friends and neighbors who we feel could benefit from QA Helpline's assistance. QA Helpline serves the 98119, 98199, and 98109 zip codes.

Singapore Math Conference Report - Emily Hamilton:

Five teachers attended a Singapore Math Instruction conference in Las Vegas over the summer. Three of the spots were paid for by Partners. Attendees were: Ms. Eustis (representing K/1 grades), Ms. Landa (representing 2nd grade), Mrs. Aminian (representing 3rd grade), Ms. Hamilton (representing 4th grade), and Ms. Kaiser (representing 5th grade). Among many other valuable takeaways, the conference provided a framework for deciphering how to teach the school district's Math in Focus lessons the way a Singapore teacher would do it. The five teachers are already sharing the training they received with their grade-level teaching teams. They also plan to share what they learned in the form of professional development sessions with the entire staff. These will take place during the course of the year. Out of 3 planned sessions, the first was canceled because of the strike. The remaining two have been scheduled and they hope to have time for one more before the end of the year. While at the conference the teachers selected 10 new books about teaching Singapore Math to add to the teachers' resource library. In January all the teachers who attended the conference will participate in a Singapore Math Parent Education Night at John Hay.

Principal Report - Tami Beach:

1. K/1 Staffing Adjustment

Ms. Beach passed out copies of the Q&A letter she sent to all Kindergarten and First grade families. It explains how John Hay is coping with the unexpected teacher reduction. It also advises parents to contact the district and ask for a capacity plan for Queen Anne and Magnolia schools. Other areas of the city have a capacity plan, but not QA and Magnolia.

Principal Beach made the difficult decision to convert Ms. Chinaka's K/1 class to a kindergarten classroom. The first-graders in the K/1 class will be re-assigned in groups of 3 to the other first-grade classrooms. 15 K students from Ms. Hana's class will join Ms. Chinaka's classroom. The other students from Ms. Hana's class will be assigned in groups of 3 or 4 to the other kindergarten classes.

Over the weekend Principal Beach and any volunteers who want to help will move Ms. Williams' classroom from the 2nd floor to the first floor, to be closer to the rest of the K/1 team. Mr. Rose will move back into the building from his current location in a cottage classroom at a later date because he is attending a training session Friday and Saturday of this week.

2. Bell Time proposal

The most recent Superintendent's Final Draft Recommendation on Bell Time Changes has John Hay starting at 9:40 for the 2016-2017 school year. This is an unexpected change from the 7:45 start time that was publicized during the 5 public meetings that were held throughout the city this fall. All other QA Elementary schools are still scheduled to start at 7:45. Principal Beach has asked the district to reinstate the 7:45 start time for Hay, but she needs parents to respectfully contact the district as well.

Karen Halazon agreed to create a talking points email and Libby will distribute it through the room-parent channel as soon as possible. There is concern that the School board will vote on the recommendation as early as October 21st, so it is imperative that parents contact district leaders no later than Tuesday, October 20th.

3. There is a new garden committee. Teachers are on board and excited about utilizing our garden area more effectively.

4. Vice Principal Berkenwald welcomed a baby boy into his family. He will be on-leave for the rest of October.

5. On Thursday John Hay successfully participated in the statewide Great Washington ShakeOut. A KIRO 7 new team shadowed Mrs. Power's 5th grade class.

Carnival/Enrichment Update - Dina:

After a round of applause from the board in honor of Dina and the John Hay Carnival, Dina said she is glad everyone had a fantastic time.

The Math Circles enrichment class had to be dropped due to low enrollment and some language classes had to be combined for the same reason.

De-Arne Schmidt - Outreach

Please check the Partners contact list that is going around the room and make necessary corrections.

Two Parent Education Nights have been scheduled:

1. Introduction to Singapore Math: January 21st
2. Positive Parenting: February 25th. This will be a two hour session presented by Julietta Skoog, the counselor at QA Elementary. Will ask for donations at the door to help cover the expense (which is paid for out of the contingency budget category) . She plans to invite anyone in the community to attend.

A nutrition-related Parent Education Night is still in the planning stages

Fundraising - Beth Brooks

Beth shared a list of potential John Hay community/fundraiser events along with a ballpark estimate of how much revenue she and Lynn expect each one to generate. She pointed out that she doesn't have time to manage as many events as her predecessor. Keeping in mind that every event requires volunteer help, which is a limited and valuable resource, which events should be given the highest priority and why. What do we think is best for the school? She would like to hear your thoughts no later than Wednesday, October 21st so a schedule of events can be shared with parents promptly.

Policy Lead - Karen Halazon

Reported on the (BTA) Buildings, Technology and Athletics levy meeting she attended. One of several recently hosted by the district to gather community input. This levy is put to voters every 6 years. Hay requested funds to replace our grass playing field with artificial turf. We did not make the cut. The district is prioritizing middle and high schools over elementary schools. A lengthy discussion about the future of John Hay's playfield followed. Key points:

1. If the playfield is reseeded it will be closed for two years.
2. Ms. Beach invited a landscape architect who founded a weekly garden club at West Woodlawn to walk the field with her and Colleen on the 23rd. She hopes to get some ideas from her.
3. Lee has heard that there is supposed to be a working irrigation system in the field today. It was supposedly installed after the heat pump project.
4. Artificial turf would cost approximately \$800,000.
5. Ms. Beach recommends John Hay create a 5-year plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.
Respectfully submitted by Joanna Mattson

2015/2016 Meeting schedule

November 19

December 17

January 21 (revised from Jan. 14th)

February 25 (To be discussed at November board meeting)

March 17

April 21

May 19

June 16