

IDA DALLAS AND SHELTON SCHOOL PRESENT

WISH YOU WERE HERE **HOPEVILLE** HOW TO WIN THE READING WARS



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A FILM BY HARVEY HUBBELL V

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL SCREENING OF **HOPEVILLE + PANEL DISCUSSION**

In honor of Shelton's 50th anniversary, parents are invited to a special evening event on Wednesday, October 1, from 7-9 p.m. in the Shelton Black Box Theatre.

Shelton will host a screening of the powerful documentary *Hopeville*, presented by the Dallas International Dyslexia Association. The film explores America's literacy crisis and highlights the urgent need for evidence-based reading instruction.

Immediately following the screening, join us for a panel discussion with experts and parents, moderated by Shelton Executive Director Suzanne Stell. This is a unique opportunity to hear perspectives, ask questions and engage in meaningful conversation about literacy and learning differences.

MEET THE PANELISTS FOR THE SHELTON SCREENING OF HOPEVILLE



Dahlem Dodson has been a board member of the Dallas Branch of International Dyslexia Association since 2023. Dahlem has held positions as the Treasurer and is currently the board President.

Dahlem retired as the Chief Financial Officer of Raytheon's Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance Systems business after 30 years with Raytheon Technologies. Dahlem holds a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) from Texas A&M University and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of North Texas. He has also served on the board of several business alliances as well as local non-profit organizations.

Dahlem is experienced in the challenges of being a parent of two children with dyslexia and related disorders. It is this experience and passion to make a difference that attracted Dahlem to the mission of the Dallas Branch of the International Dyslexia Association. He is father of Shelton tenth-grader Davis and Meredith (Shelton Class of 2024).

Dr. Gulzar Babool serves as Co-Director of Shelton's Outreach & Training department alongside Christine Bedenbaugh. She is also the Director of Shelton Montessori Training, where she has led a significant expansion to serve both public and private sector schools. Under her leadership, the program now offers training from Early Childhood through Upper Elementary levels as well as Administrator training, Montessori Applied to Children at Risk (MACAR) and the AMS Montessori Inclusion Endorsement. She continues to develop content, establish virtual deliverables and serve as a leader in the Montessori field.

With more than 20 years of experience as a Montessorian, Dr. Babool holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership from Southern Methodist University where she researched the use of multisensory instruction to teach reading to students with dyslexia. She also facilitated a partnership with SMU to provide reduced tuition for Shelton adult learners.

Dr. Babool serves on the American Montessori Society (AMS) Board of Directors and is a founding board member of Teacher Education and Advocacy for Montessori (TEAM). She is chair of the AMS Teacher Education Action Commission (TEAC) and a frequent speaker at schools and national conferences. She has shared her expertise on Montessori and learning differences as a panelist at AMS conferences and at the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (MACTE) Symposium where she presented strategies for accommodating adult learners in teacher education programs.





Son Tran and his wife, Chin Chin, are parents to Austin, a senior at Shelton who has attended since second grade, and Anthony, a Parish Episcopal School lifer and graduate student at Columbia University. With a strong commitment to lifelong learning, Son serves as a parent advocate for individualized learning and quality education. He holds a degree in Electrical Engineering from Texas A&M and has extensive experience in VR/AR and AI with a focus on machine learning.

For more than two decades, **Kim Self** has been a dedicated member of Shelton's faculty. She currently serves in the Upper School Reading Department as a Certified Academic Language Therapist (CALT) and is working toward an additional certification as a CALT Qualified Instructor.

Kim began her Shelton career in 2003 as a Physical Science and Biology teacher, also teaching ninth-grade Physics during her 17 years in the Upper School Science Department. She later transitioned into Reading Therapy, where she found her true calling in helping students unlock the power of language.

A graduate of Northeastern State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Science Education, Kim also holds a Master's Degree in Curriculum from Central Michigan University. Beyond her school-year role, she has taught summer courses at Shelton ranging from Organization & Study Skills to ACT Reading Comprehension, Speech and Middle School Math Word Problems. Her daughter Kennedi is a 2022 Shelton graduate.



Suzanne Stell has been Shelton's Executive Director since 2010. A native of Beaumont, Texas, Suzanne received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education with a major in Elementary Education and Special Education from The University of Texas at Austin. She also holds a Master's degree in Education with a specialization in Organization and Administration from Dallas Baptist University. Her first teaching job was at Dean Learning Center in Dallas, an institution that at one time also employed Shelton's founder Dr. June Shelton.

Suzanne joined Shelton as a classroom teacher in 1985 and taught in numerous grades. She helped develop Shelton's unique study skills program as part of the school's standard curriculum and played a major role in the design of many other curriculum areas throughout the school. Her Shelton career progression included head of middle school in 1997, assistant head of school in 2004 and head of school in 2007.

Suzanne is a Certified Academic Language Therapist. She is a member of the Academic Language Therapy Association (ALTA) and formerly served on its board of directors. She was instrumental in Shelton becoming accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS) and has represented Shelton at major ISAS events and conferences.

Suzanne has two grown sons. Whether it's nine to five or five to nine, she is involved in activities that center around students.