Parent Leadership Council: 9/17/25
Meeting Minutes

Group exercise:
Starting the meeting with everyone writing key dates on post-in note sheets on the walls.

Introductions: Name, school, board position, fun fact about yourself

- Marilee Hill-Anderson: Director of Community Engagement & Strategic Partnerships - met Judy Garland
- Karli Henry: Victor Fals, VP - likes to hike
- Rebecca Landro: Maple Lawn, President - loves to travel
- Casey Garibaldi: Maple Lawn, Treasurer - likes to DYI around the house
- Leilani Howland: Liberty Ridge, President - shared quote
- Tara Haus: Liberty Ridge, Secretary - loves to garden
- Kristen Lundy: Bonney Lake Elementary, President - coached soccer since age 12
- Sarah Fisher: Emerald Hills, Secretary - going back to school to further career
- Audrey Welch: Donald Eismann, President prez - hobbyist wood turner
- Kyle Dillon: Donald Eismann, Treasurer DEE - like playing video games
- Heather Forbis: Emerald Hills, Co-VP - likes snow boarding
- Jen Dery: Lakeridge, Co-Auction Chair - has not had a job real job since 2014, but just started new job as events director at Solei Day Spa
- Janina Haraguchi: Daffodil Valley, Secretary and Art Docent Coordinator - she was art docent at DVE when her oldest child (now a senior) went there
- Amanda Henderson: Daffodil Valley, President - likes to travel for concerts, front row seats only
- Laurie Dent: Superintendent - taught herself to write backwards in 7th grade (cursive and print)
- Allison Hollingsworth: Communications Specialist - running her first 10K next weekend
- Elle Warmuth: Communications Director - was once a hostess at Red Robin (carrying theme from earlier RR convo)
- Tamara Stramel: Crestwood, VP and Book Fair Chair - completed a 10K swim
- Carmel Lampson: Crestwood, Co-Secretary - did an aqua bike race, discovered likes biking
- Val Reich: Administrative Secretary - used to be a surgical technician
- David Brower: Assistant Superintendent - stood in line with Marie Osmond for an author event
- Thu Ament: Deputy Superintendent - trained professionally with classical ballet and performed with PNW ballet and others
- Lauren Fider: Daffodil Valley VP - been to Dave Matthews concert at the Gorge 5 times
- Vanya Quiles: Lakeridge, Secretary - just came back from Texas from celebrating grandfather's 90th birthday
- Micaela Leppell: Emerald Hills

Laurie Dent: Strong Minds, Kind Hearts presentation

EHE kindness Wednesday
A lot of schools are adopting slowly
Started in August with Leadership Team
Using elephant as symbol
Thank you for what you did to get school up and running this year
The district is in a good place, financially stable, bond projects moving forward
You support our teachers and kids in a way that we can't; keep doing it!

Kicked off kindness initiative at convocation
New school year, new opportunity
We want to show up in a fierce way
Want to use this to help fulfill our promise of 100% graduation
1st in Pierce County in ELA -- test scores are amazing
This year - new chapter - is Strong Minds, Kind Hearts
Shows up in a way to make the place better
More than a motto, it's a mindset

Strong minds - want kids to be strong academically, think critically but also strong mentally/emotionally
Fully supportive of social/emotional learning specialists
We have 5 counselors at each high school

Kind hearts - kindness creates belonging, it's a universal human need
We intentionally create cultures where everyone feels like they belong, want them to be seen, valued and accepted
Kindness and being nice are two different things - show up as kind even when we don't agree with things, teaches to face hard things in a kind way

Strong minds - how we think. Kind hearts - what we do

Elephants protect the herd and create a sense of belonging and make sure everyone has a role; big elephant walks at the pace of the little elephant.

Teaching everyone to show up as the big elephant - we need to model kindness and set the way.

Big elephants with grounds crews, Donnie and Dave. They showed up for CBTP student showing him the way, he now has a job, graduated.

It starts with us -- we are the big elephants, we model

** Showed video **

Starting in October, districtwide kindness days - first Wednesday of every month
Nov. 13 - International day of kindness
Feb. 17 - Random acts of kindness day

We want our little elephants to walk across the stage and become something incredible.

Tamara: What's the graduation rate currently? Answer: 93.2%
Marilee: We saw a big jump in grad rate in students experiencing homelessness

Major companies are developing kindness as strategies.

Marilee: Are any of you doing anything with kindness?

- BLE - national elem honor society - kids had second meeting yesterday, have started a kindness crew - anyone can join, coming up with what they're going to do. Fall fundraiser will be care-a-thon
- LRE, Lelani - Tried to implement student give-backs with a focus of kindness November and February; garden has been revived - harvest from garden goes to Good Roots - all classes help with it - it's a part of kindness
- EHE - Used recess time to do full 20 foot long with muscles and fists and would talk to kids about kindness, especially on the two kindness dates. They would share what kindness means to them. We had over 200 responses posted on muscles - "kindness is the biggest flex" "kindness strong." Hoping to do it again this year.

David Brower: Subs, volunteers

Values the connection with this group and will join at every meeting. Things we're doing to help kids feel like they belong.

Committed to having adults around who see kids as they are and value for who they are
I love you because of who you are (not despite who you are). Every kids needs at least one adult they can connect to.

Open invitation for subs.
Volunteering: Changed volunteer approval system - great, faster, from three weeks now just 10 minutes for approval. Now expanded to K-12, was just a pilot at elementary last year.

PTA/PTO: Don't need to tell volunteers what to do or train them - don't worry about that. Staff will take care of that.

Jen: Was initially confused about the volunteer approval system. Suggests we say more on the website than just to contact your main office.

Audrey: DEE sent a ParentSquare message out about that people need to reapply.

David: We want this to be for people who will actually volunteer since there's a cost associated with each person.

Lelani: When you're hired on with the district - you don't need to go through the volunteer background check.

Communications Team: Elle and Allison
Contact: communicatons@sumnersd.org

- Peachjar is a resource for PTA/O to send fliers for free. Learn more at sumnersd.org/flyers.
- Each PTA/O has a page on the district website: Go to school website > Families > Get Involved. Let comms team know if you have changes to your page.
- Email communications@sumnersd.org with your PTA/O's new board names/contact info.
- Join the SBLSD Parent Facebook group.
- Take note of the Parent Leadership Council webpage. Has meetings and minutes, along with other resources, including reminder to make sure there are no "no photo" students at your school.

Marilee: Various

- Meeting time/location
    - Asked group if 10:30 am work for them - yes from everyone
    - Ok with this location - yes, it's preferred

- Building Bridges: Jan 29 (Title 1 night - required to do educational night for parents) SMS 5:30 -7:30
    - Did anyone go last year? No.
    - What makes it worth your while to come? Understanding what it is. Who is it for, 5 Ws
    - Event managers will come to the November meeting promote it.
    - Marilee asks them to put on their calendars and help promote

- Upcoming events
    - March 28 Community Cultural Celebration
    - March 5 Community Summit

Around the room

VFE: New board, still learning, lots of changes, stick with what we've done. Walk a thon, working with Moolah, getting feet wet and we'll see what happens.

LRE: Full year ahead, board of 9, school dance, fall fest, school wide spirit shirts, give back to community, December - gingerbread hunt during the season.

CWE: All new executive board, bigger: main goals are to realize how much the school's population has changed, quality for free reduced lunch so has fundraisers, doing art docents, changed book fair to conference week; want CWE to feel more of district community, want to see district people at our events.
Does anyone do class/grade level shirts? DEE does. DVE tie dies by color. BLE: Does color wars - each class is assigned a color, so they're not supplying it.

MLE: New principal and dean of students; well functioning PTA. Recruiting for next year. Fun run fundraiser, including the ELC this year, bingo (food drive), trunk or treat, glow party (toy drive).

LRE: New spiritwear vendor.

BLE: Started our own spiritwear, transfers; makes more affordable for Title 1 community. Carathon - act of kindness on honor system like jogathon. Trunk or treat. Partner trunk or treat with Title 1.

EHE: They're rebuilding because some people left. Have new people who are excited. Been able to connect muffins with madams and donuts with dudes, help recruit from there. Student advocacy for needs of the kids. Fundraising APEX fun run in October. Looking at doing kindness fundraiser in the spring. New prez Lauren Beach - used to be art docent coordinator.

DEE: Electing new secretary on Monday. Kicking off fall fundraiser - sports theme fun run. Partnering with BLHS to have athletes come to school to get them excited. Repeat events coming up. Most of the executive board is outgoing so they're focusing on recruitment.

LMS: STEAM Night auction -- they just do the auction part, Jan. 22. Procuring items for auction. Excited for successful auction.

DVE: Hard time getting parent involvement at school. Popcorn Fridays and bookfair. Spiritwear going, art docent, trunk or treat Oct. 24, honor society kids can help fill gaps; new principal is fantastic. Bobbi is a great support.

Marilee:

- Served 1,810 students with shoes and backpacks. Still have 150 pairs of shoes in size 10 and up.
- Working with community partners to have a safety net for the holidays. During community dinner we'll have support for families -- toys. School counselors will be reaching out to families. Will be Amazon lists available. Marillee will send link to PLC.
- Ask: Over 100 kids experiencing homelessness. Often get asked for school spiritwear. Marilee will give PLC a call - everyone agrees ok. Maybe 2-3 per school is what it amounts to.