



**Sheila Tarr Academy of International Studies**  
**School Organizational Team Minutes**  
**February 6, 2025**  
**4:00 pm**

The Sheila Tarr Academy of International Studies School Organizational Team meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm on February 6, 2025. The meeting was held virtually through Google Meet.

**Members present through role call:**

Tracy Baldwin, Licensed School Staff Member  
Danyell Gustaw, Parent Member  
Alyson Jones, Principal  
Jessica Beard, Support Staff School Member  
Tiffany Ferguson, Assistant Principal  
Courtney Patrick, Parent Member  
Elizabeth McGee, Parent Member

**Members absent:** Christina Palmer, Parent Member  
Becky Smith, Licensed School Staff Member

**Guests:** Several from Tarr Staff and a few parents

**Agenda Items**

**Old Items:** This was an additional meeting to vote on budget cuts and staffing decisions. Tarr Leadership Team met previously to discuss spending and suggested reduction in staffing. Suggestions: cut 1 position in Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> which will increase class sizes to 21:1. Also suggested that the Technology class and 1 Spanish assignment be cut.

**New Items: School Budget:**

The school staff continued discussion about possible cuts. The school was not allocated the funding for the additional 20 students in each grade level at this time so deep cuts had to occur. The SOT team with six members in attendance all voted to approve the budget as presented. The following reductions were reflected in the budget:

- Reduce staffing by 1 less Kindergarten, 1- first grade, 1- second grade,
- Eliminate the Read by Grade Three (RBG3) full time position
- Magnet coordinator will take on RBG3 responsibilities to support teachers
- Eliminated the technology teacher and one Spanish teacher
- Site Based Technician (SBT) will be reduced from full time to half time (4 hours per day)
- Reduced one hour from School Health Assistant (SHA) and Library Aide
- Eliminated one school-wide instructional aide and a Certified Temporary Tutor (CTT).

Although the technology class will not be funded to begin the school year, it was discussed that it could be funded in the fall if there is an influx of money from the state along with the money from an additional 10 students in grades 4 and 5.

We will have fundraisers to help with funding programs that support our students' success in learning. Our Fun Run will be the start for these efforts and will commence on March 6, 2025. The school will also reach out to local businesses for possible donations.

The school performance plan and status check 2 were shared with the team highlighting the school's progress on the school performance plan's goals.

### **General Discussion**

- **Next Meeting-** Friday, February 28, 2025 at 4:00PM virtually.

### **Public Comment Period**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25pm.