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## Spectrum Academy Board Meeting Minutes

**Date & Time** April 11, 2018 7:04 P.M to 7:35 P.M.  
**Location** Spectrum Academy Pleasant Grove Campus  
**Members in attendance:** Marney DeVroom, Dennis M. Bullard, Jana Gold, Marcy Johnson, Madi Leyba, Jason Steenblik, Nick Wright

### **Members Excused**

**Spectrum Staff** Brad Nelson, Jaime Christensen, Rachel Colledge, Christina Guevara, Courtney England, Kaley Veater, Liz Banner, Barry Pewtress, Krisanne Lewis, Paul Woodworth

### **BUSINESS DISCUSSED**

#### **Board Session**

- Reviewed minutes from March 14, 2018, Motion to approve minutes made by Dennis Bullard, seconded by Nick Wright, and unanimously approved.
- Financial Update (Nick Wright, Courtney England)
  - Courtney announced that the school bought a truck with plow for snow removal in NSL.
  - All board questions were answered.
  - Budget is under on overall expenditures.
- Status of the NSL expansion (Brad Nelson)
  - They are about a month behind due to labor shortage with the Masons. Scheduling to have sheetrock started as soon as the second floor is put in to make up time.
- Academic Director's Update NSL Elementary School Principal's Update (Jaime Christensen)
  - Jaime talked about a couple of projects she is working on.
- STARS Director's Update (Christina Guevara)
  - See attached
- C.R.E.A.T.E Director's Update and NSL Secondary School Principal's Update (Rachel Colledge)
  - See attached

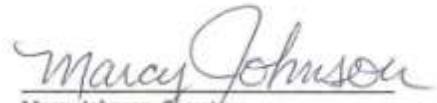
- PG School Principal's Update (Liz Banner)
  - No updates at this time
- Related Services Update (Krisanne Lewis)
  - See attached
- Gala update (Amy Baker)
  - Friday - Will be great.
- Nick asked for a report on the job fair that was held last month.
- Jason asked for the minutes to reflect the fact that he works for an employer.

Next Board meeting the May 9<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM NSL

- Motion to adjourn made by Madi Leyba, seconded by Jana Gold, and unanimously approved.

#### **Public Session**

No public comments at this time.

  
Marcy Johnson, Secretary



## Board Update 4/11/18

- ★ New Behavior Specialist – We like to welcome Molly Poirier as a new Behavior Specialist to North Salt Lake. She is able to get a jumpstart with us at STARS this year. Everyone is excited to have Molly's expertise and fresh perspective on interventions that will support our students with long-term success.
- ★ Red Cross Blood Drive – North Salt Lake had a great turn out and were able to collect from 15 donors! We are so grateful for the amazing turnout.
- ★ NSL Interviews – The NSL Administrative Team has been working hard together to interview and fill positions for next year. We have attended the charter school job fair and hosted two job fairs. The month of April is filling up as we have over 30 interviews scheduled already – wish us luck!
- ★ New STARS Admin – I am so lucky to be able to work with Deanna Billings as she will join us as the new Functional Skills Principal at STARS. Deanna comes to us with experience as a Special Education Teacher and an Assistant Principal in the charter school setting.
- ★ Milo the Robot – Tanya Semerad, USBE Autism Specialist, visited STARS last month to check on our progress of working with Milo to help supplement Social Skills Instruction. Lauren Haslam, Middle School STARS Teachers has spear-headed the implementation of Milo with students at STARS. Tanya was extremely impressed with our implementation progress and is working with Leah Voorhies, USBE Special Education Director, to discuss options for more implementation with Milo in more classes at Spectrum next year.

Board Report

NSL Secondary School/CREATE

April 11, 2018

In addition to the items in the newsletter, the following occurred during the last month.

We had a safety walkthrough with Detective Winslow from NSL PD.

We held a blood drive with the Red Cross.

We held two job fairs (Krisanne headed these up and did an amazing job!)

Jaime, Rachel and Colton Strong attended the School to Work Community of Practice to learn more about the structure of this program that Spectrum was selected for to receive support.

We've been recruiting and interviewing for the teaching position for the 2018-19 school year.

CREATE and students in transition planning who got parent permission attended the Work Ability Career Exploration and Job Fair for people with disabilities.

April, 2018

# Related Services

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*Growth is never by mere chance. It is a result of forces working together.*

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## April!

Did you know that April is Autism Awareness month **AND** Occupational Therapy month? What a wonderful duo! In honor of this glorious month here are just a few of the ways that your friendly OTs can support students in their education at Spectrum Academy.

**Fine motor experts:** Even with the rise of electronic use in the school setting handwriting is still a vital part of the educational experience. Teaching students to write legibly through evidence-based practice ensures that they will be able to access all the facets of life they desire. We also collaborate with the school's assistive technology team to help determine classroom technology needs for students who need more support as they learn.

**Sensory strategists:** Whether a student needs a fidget to keep their hands busy so they can focus in class or they need heavy work built into a sensory diet, OT can help with that! Individuals with ASD often have sensory needs and fulfilling those needs in less distracting ways can improve a student's attention and participation in the classroom.



Want to insert a picture from your files or add a shape, text box, or table? You got it! On the Insert tab of the ribbon, just tap the option you need.

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*If they can't  
learn the way  
we teach, we  
teach the way  
they learn.*

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**Self-regulation specialists:** OTs at Spectrum use the Zones of Regulation curriculum to teach students about the states of alertness and teach them strategies for returning and remaining in the optimal state of alertness. Middle school and High school can be tough for anyone, understanding how to better regulate their own emotions can help a student's engagement and encourage a pleasant school experience.

In a school setting, OT ensures that students have the tools they need to be lifelong learners! Further functional concerns could be remediated with the help of an outpatient OT.

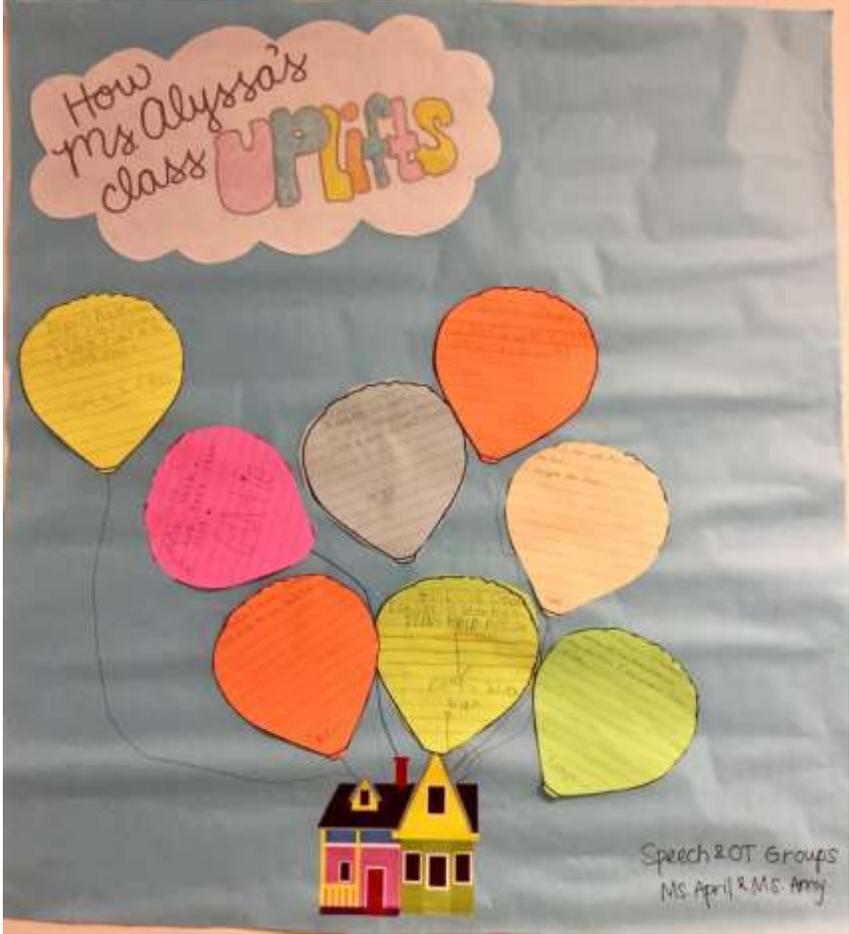
To celebrate OT month, and National Speech and Hearing Month (coming up in May), our OT's and speech therapists have created a twitter contest! They will send out clues each day, and our teachers will be able to respond by tweeting out pictures. This is a fun way to increase awareness and thank our teachers for their support!

(The above picture was a gift from our OT grad student. It is an "I spy" game and tactile board, based on the Zones of Regulation Curriculum.)

## **“Uplifting” Each Other**

### **Speech Groups this month**

Our speech therapists have been working on teaching our students how to give compliments and support each other. Students talked and wrote about different ways that they can “uplift” their friends and teachers.



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*It takes a village to raise a child. It takes a child with autism to raise the consciousness of a village.*

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## Technology Donations

### **Martin-Jahnsen Foundation**

The Martin-Jahnsen Foundation contacted Spectrum and is donating 5 iPads to the families of our students. They will come to Spectrum on April 11 to set up the iPads and get them running. The Foundation donates technology to children with special needs. We are partnering with them to create a campaign to donate additional iPads to some classrooms. We are currently working with MBA students from Utah State to develop a marketing campaign, and a professional film crew will visit Spectrum on April 12 to interview staff and film students using technology. This film will be used as part of the marketing campaign to help secure additional funding. We are excited to work with them, and look forward to developing this positive partnership!

## Hiring Updates

Hiring is in full swing! Here is where we stand:

- OT is fully staffed for North Salt Lake!!
- We still need to hire a COTA for PG (we have no applicants)
- Speech is fully staffed for PG!!
- We still need to hire a speech therapist for NSL (we are still interviewing)
- Behavior is fully staffed for all campuses!!
- We are waiting for funding approval to add nursing staff
- We still need to hire school psychologists for both campuses (we have no applicants)

