

## ***Slate of Officers for 2021-2022***



***President – Mandy Mitchell.*** Mandy is a mom of two boys in elementary and middle school who keep her on the move. She has been a PTA mom for 7 years. She has had the honor of being President at Wanda Gray and coordinating many different events. She recently just completed a two-year term as the Ozark Regional Director for Missouri PTA while also serving as Vice President of Health and Public Services, whose main responsibility is running The Clothing Bank. She is looking forward to her new position and helping grow PTA units and strengthen relationships between units and council. Mandy truly believes in PTA and its mission-Every Child, One Voice.



***VP of Organization and Development – Bill Peterson.*** Hello, my name is Bill Petersen. I am married to my beautiful wife Jen of 19 years. We have 2 kids, a Junior, Bella and Freshman Ozzy, both at Hillcrest. I have been in the PTA for a while (off and on). I started at Watkins. Currently I am the Parent Involvement and Members Outreach at Reed Academy. I am part of Hillcrest PTA as well. I am a former President, Vice President, and Queen Ambassador to the Queen City Beard and Moustache Federation, a local non-profit that raises money for other local non-profits. I am very active in the community, volunteering with different non-profit groups in the Ozarks. I love to serve. I currently help with the Reed and Hillcrest Food Bank. I look forward to helping us grow and do good for our kids in the SPS system.



***VP of Health and Public Services - Taryn Raidel.*** Taryn Raidel is a wife, mom of one, dog lover, football fan, and lake enthusiast. She has always known the importance of being involved in her child's school and currently holds the position of PTSA Treasurer at Hickory Hills Middle School. This school year, Taryn has taken her involvement a step farther and started devoting her free time to The PTA Clothing Bank. Through this experience, she has learned about the substantial needs within our SPS community. With a

desire to help, she is happy to join the SCPTA board and looks forward to serving!



**VP of Programs – Jessica Rosa** When it comes to the arts, there is no champion greater than Jessica (Lamb) Rosa. Whether a teacher, mentor, or creator she has dedicated her time, talent, and passion in a variety of ways that continue to serve our artistic community. As the former Director of Photography for the Missouri Heart Gallery Project 2001-2013, she sourced and coordinated portraits of children awaiting adoption through out the state of Missouri. Followed by personally editing and printing 75 to 95 images that would travel the state to bring awareness of the availability of children ready for adoption. She owned a fulltime portrait boutique business with a team of photographers, production, and sales staff, Lamb Portrait Studio 1995-2012, until she rebranded as a freelancer as J Rosa Photography. With a vast photography portfolio of tens upon thousands of assignments ranging from weddings, portraits, commercial, and photojournalism including editorial design for the Springfield Business Journal and graphic design for a wide variety of clients, Jessica brings a level of wisdom and expertise to any project. Her knowledge and skill in logistics really comes into play as she has recently dedicated her time as the Reflections chairperson for the Council of Springfield PTAs, where each year she has continually elevated the program. As a former PTA President of Sherwood Elementary, one of the largest elementary schools in the district, she fully understands the importance and impact a program like Reflections can have in a student’s education. Jessica has been honored as a business woman from the State of Missouri with the Excellence in Business Award in 1997, by her peers as a noted photographer of the year in 2017 by the Professional Photographers of The Ozarks, and the industry as a recipient of the Fuji Masterpiece Award and two time honoree of the Kodak Gallery Award. “To me, art is a form a prayer allowing and showing a way for us to connect to everything around us. Whether its words, photos, video, painting, sculpting, dance or music – we embrace it in a way that defines who we are. How can you not be drawn to it? This is why I love what I do.” – Jessica Rosa



**VP of Promotions – Heather Buckner.** Heather Buckner has been involved in PTA and PTSA for the past 14 years starting at Delaware Elementary. She's held many officer positions throughout the years including President at 3 different schools. She loves being involved in her community and part of the Delaware Neighborhood Association! She's been on the SCPTA for the past 5 years and is passionate about being an advocate for all children. She's honored to be a VP this coming year and looks forward to making a difference with SPS.



**Treasurer – Becky Volz.** Becky Volz is a past SCPTA President and Treasurer and is ready to serve again with SCPTA. She has been a PTA/PTSA grandparent having had nine grandchildren attend 12 SPS schools. Along with SCPTA volunteering, Becky serves in the community as President of her Neighborhood Association, and is a committee member for the City of Springfield's Neighborhood Advisory Council, Habitat's Neighborhood Revitalization, School Crossing Protection Committee, Forward SGF Advisory Team and served on the SPS Community Task Force for Facilities. She is also a member of the Affordable Housing Action Board. And, *when there's time* she is an estimator for AMTECH, a polished concrete floor company. Participating in opportunities to help our schools and community be a safe and exciting place for our children to learn, experience and develop into productive and successful adults is Becky's drive and passion.



**Secretary – Sarah Whitten.** Sarah and her husband Adam Whitten went to the same Springfield Public Schools from elementary through high school at Kickapoo. The couple has two very active sons, Luke, 14, and Noah, 12. Both Sarah and her husband work in our local medical community. Following in her mother's footsteps, Sarah has always been involved in her sons' schools and has served as Horace Mann's PTA President. Sarah has been involved in SCPTA and has jumped into as many roles as possible, enjoying learning the purpose and value and implementing the reach of PTA in

Springfield. As a part of SCPTA and the School Crossing Protection Committee, Sarah is continuing to work with SPS Transportation, Crossing Guard Services, Public Works and the Springfield Police Department to help ensure SPS student safety. Sarah loves meeting and recruiting new people to volunteer and become involved.