

December 8th, 2023

## SPEAR General meeting

### Participants:

Tulika Prasad, Lisa K, Hadia Khan, Allie Adams, Rachel Pettibone, Ranjini Nagendra

1. Lisa showcased the website's Beta version: [sycamorespear.org/beta](https://sycamorespear.org/beta)

Lisa requested everyone to provide feedback and resources to be added to the website.

Tulika will try to get the IEP Handbook that she had helped create at Children's Hospital.

2. Hadia updated the group about the options for having a bank account. There seems to be 2 options- either become a 501c3 organization or request a sub account under an existing organization. Tulika will contact Mandy to see if we can use a sub account under school or PTO.

3. We discussed making our presence felt/seen in board meetings and PTO meetings. It was decided that we would request volunteers to attend monthly board meetings so that the burden is not just on one person. The next board meeting is on 12/20. Allie and Tulika will be attending it. Hadia has volunteered to attend the January meeting. We would put the request in the group for those who are willing to attend.

Hadia will check with Sara Bitter about getting the Board meeting agenda.

4. There was also a discussion around having the SPEAR heads attending the PTO meetings and giving updates about SPEAR as well as providing updates to the group so that we can work on making events in every building more inclusive.

5. We discussed about how we can increase engagement within our group. Some of the suggestions that came up were:

- having some information sessions with professionals on IEP, STABLE account etc.
- setting up informal meet and greet(virtual/in-person) of parents with kids of the same age group. It was recommended that this can be initiated by the SPEAR heads.
- Ranjini expressed concern over how overwhelming it can be to represent SPEAR in the building when they themselves don't feel like they have enough information and resources to help.

6. We agreed on having a Spring gathering. We will need volunteers to plan this. Allie is willing to be part of this.

7. Discussion was held around having a Monthly online market for swapping /selling stuff within the group. We have not decided on a schedule for that yet.

8. We are still looking for the following open positions- VP, SPEAR heads for Blue Ash and Montgomerys

Next meeting: Jan 12, 2024 - 10:30 am