

## **Meeting Minutes: SWWA REGIONAL FYSPRT Meeting 9/15/25 – Virtual**

### **Attendees:**

- Michelle Karnath
- Kacey Bellamy
- Ann Cotton
- Angelo Gonzales
- Sherry Mashburn
- Isabella Acevedo
- David Bower
- Lauren Woodbeck
- Angie Williams
- Mariusz Bista
- Julie Bacon
- Jennifer Bell
- Angela Kennedy
- Stephanie DeGrandpre

### **Presentation: Partnership for Action, Voices for Empowerment (PAVE) – Sherry Mashburn**

- Sherry, representing PAVE, outlined resources and support available to parents of children with special needs, focusing on IEPs and 504 plans.
- She shared a personal experience aiding a family with a district transition.
- Advocacy for Special Education
- Emphasized the rights of families in advocating for children's accommodations.
- Sherry outlined how parents could question denied accommodations and the opt-out process for state testing up to 10th grade.
- Sherry provided her contact number, 509-439-9880, for further assistance.

### **Real Talk: Free Fall Family Activities, Cell Phone Safety and Social Media**

- Michelle Karnath stressed the importance of staff feedback in resolving school issues.
- Discussion on potential strikes affecting schools, with emphasis on the Vancouver School District.
- Angela Kennedy highlighted procedures that schools might undertake in case of strikes or closures.
- Julie Bacon announced an upcoming Trunk or Treat event by Thrive to Survive.
- Ann Cotton mentioned an event at Clark College focused on advocacy and recovery scheduled for October 18th.

### **Updates: Youth Advocacy and Empowerment (YAE) Updates**

- Angelo Gonzales talked about a discussion on social media and safe Internet usage.
- Shared resource: [theinternetmatters.org](https://theinternetmatters.org) to assist families with internet and social media challenges.
- Next YAE Meeting: October 6th, with an educational presentation by Luke Wall.
- Interactive Activity

**Next regional meeting scheduled for October 20th at River City Church with both in-person and online options.**