

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lake Washington Schools Foundation Welcomes Four New Members to Its Board of Trustees

Lake Washington Schools Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of four new Trustees to provide strategic leadership and direction in keeping with the organization's mission: to gather and deploy community resources to enhance academic access and to nurture all students' emotional well-being in the Lake Washington School District.

Mindy Lincicome has been a part of the Lake Washington community for over 16 years, living in Redmond with her husband and their three children. Mindy shares, "I have seen the important work of the LWSF as a school volunteer and PTA board member at the elementary, middle school, high school and council levels, and am looking forward to supporting and advancing the LWSF mission firsthand." After 20+ years of volunteering with school, church, Scouts and other community organizations, Mindy now works part-time in non-profit administration.

Born and raised in the Snoqualmie Valley, **Joan Krona** has worked in the banking industry for over 15 years. She is currently the Assistant Vice President and Client Service Manager at Banner Bank in Kirkland, WA. In her spare time, Joan enjoys reading books and engaging in various recreational outdoor activities. Joan states, "I am very excited to serve as a trustee for Lake Washington Schools Foundation. I strongly believe in giving back by enriching educational experiences for all future stewards of our communities and planet."

Theresa Demeter and her children are proud graduates of the Lake Washington School District. Presently the Managing Director at Tegria Clinical Solutions, Theresa has spent 26 years both working in and providing services to the healthcare industry. Reflecting on her appointment, Theresa says, "What first drew me to LWSF is its Balance in Mind program, which aims to raise awareness of the mental health challenges our students face and to educate parents on how to support their kids. I am very excited to be an LWSF trustee to help support and grow all of the important programs offered through the Foundation."

Having provided PTA leadership at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels, **Jen O'Donnell** brings a deep knowledge and understanding of the needs of students across the Lake Washington School District. Jen remarks, "The LWSF has wonderful programs serving our community. Issues I am drawn to are the social/emotional issues, mental health support, advocacy, and the belief that all people hold incredible value." With a background in social work practice and a heart for service and advocacy, Jen also serves on the board of Lake Washington PTSA Council and Washington State PTA.

Mindy Lincicome, Joan Krona, Theresa Demeter, and Jen O'Donnell join 9 other members currently serving the Lake Washington Schools Foundation Board of Trustees.

ABOUT LAKE WASHINGTON SCHOOLS FOUNDATION:

Lake Washington Schools Foundation was launched in 2005 after a dedicated group of community members joined together and committed to working with Redmond, Kirkland, and Sammamish parents, businesses, and community leaders in support of our future—the students in the Lake Washington School District. The State funds basic education, but our District sets a higher bar for its students and the Foundation supports those higher standards. It is the Foundation's vision that each student in the Lake Washington School District will receive an education that ensures future success. In doing so, we sustain economic vitality and enrich our community's quality of life.

Since 2010, the Foundation has raised over \$4.0 million funding district-wide programs that prepare each of our district's students for school and for life. These programs include: <u>Balance in</u> <u>Mind</u>, a program that supports the emotional well-being of students; <u>Find Your Fit</u>, a college-prep program for students and their families; <u>Kids Coming Together</u>, a program that helps students grades 3-8 form lasting connections with peers through social and community service events; <u>LINKS</u>, a mentoring program that matches a caring adult with students who could benefit from additional attention; and <u>Pantry Packs</u>, a program that provides weekend meals for students experiencing food insecurity. These would not exist without the generosity and support of our community.