# Facts for Families September 2022

**ALL ABOUT OUR PTSA** 



## WHAT IS THIS NEW PTSA ALL ABOUT?

The Issaquah Special Education PTSA is a districtwide community of people who "get it" and want the school system to work for ALL students. We have a unique advocacy-oriented mission and strive to be welcoming and inclusive.

### WHAT DOES THIS NEW PTSA DO?

We provide education, quarterly meetings, guest speakers, a monthly "Parent Power Hour," and a members-only Facebook group. We advocate, attend school board meetings, and monitor special education issues at the local, state, and federal levels.

### WHO DOES THIS NEW PTSA SUPPORT?

We support ALL students with disabilities or suspected disabilities (and their families and teachers) residing within the Issaquah School District boundaries, including students with IEPs and 504 plans.

### WHY DO WE NEED A SPECIAL EDUCATION PTSA?

Our students are spread out across the 26 schools in the district and it can be difficult for families to meet and connect. This PTSA helps unify and strengthen the entire community.

### ARE THERE OTHER PTSA GROUPS LIKE THIS IN WA STATE?

There are 10 other stand-alone Special Education PTSAs in Washington State, including Bellevue, Richland, Everett, Federal Way, Seattle, Shoreline, and Tacoma. There is also a committee through the Washington State PTA that helps these groups coordinate.

# **DON'T WE ALREADY HAVE A PTSA LIKE THIS IN ISSAQUAH?**

Nope. We are the first and only disabilities focused, standalone PTSA in the Issaquah area. We are a 501(c) 3 tax-exempt organization and chartered under the Washington State PTSA.