

General Membership Meeting

March 3, 2006, 9:30 AM
Held at IHS Library

Call to Order – Mary Lou Pauly

Mary Lou called the meeting to order at 9:36 am. 17 people present; 14 members signed in.

Golden Acorn Awards – Presented by Deed Chase, Nancy Campi and Mary Lou Pauly

Awards were presented to JoEllen Smith, Deborah Parsons and Mary Lou Pauly.

Guest Speaker – Kelly Munn on the WASL

At 9:45, Kelly Munn gave her presentation on standards, and the reason and controversies behind the WASL.

Resume Business – Mary Lou Pauly

The meeting resumed at 10:25.

Secretary's Report – Deborah Parsons

Minutes from February

Deborah Parsons presented the minutes from the February 3, 2006 General Membership meeting. Accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report – Diane McGee

Financial Statement

Diane McGee presented the financial report for February. Currently collected about \$4300 more than we budgeted. We have \$1800 left in special funding requests (less \$1200 we promised to consider for the Velocity program, if successful)—about \$600 left unconsidered. We currently have \$49,896 on hand. Filed for audit.

President's Report – Mary Lou Pauly

Jiff's son is competing in Wenatchee today in the Special Olympics state championships basketball game, so Jiff isn't here.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to:

- Marianne Kersten for filling in last month for the presidents and running the meeting.
- Sue Jacobson and Susan Balkman for getting Tolo volunteers, and assessment refreshments.

Housekeeping – VISA processing dropped

We will be dropping the VISA credit card payment option. It isn't used very much, and costs more than we benefit.

PTA Council Report

Mostly addressed by Kelly's presentation and the Legislative report.

Nominating Committee

Please submit nominations to Deborah, Nancy or Sue.

Principal's Report – Paula Phelps

Paula reported on the WASL class we funded: 44 students have signed up; 30 attended the first day. The kids are giving good feedback. The first day, the kids took a test to see where they are.

The Leadership class made WASL posters, which are displayed around the campus.

Drugs and Alcohol: Paula has met with Lakeside-Milam. They confirmed that our campus is becoming more aware, and effective at dealing with the problems. The heightened awareness is resulting in earlier, more effective intervention. It might be valuable to have a presentation by Lakeside-Milam at one of our meetings.

Quarterly Student Honors were presented this morning. To some of these kids, the awards are incredibly significant. 48 students received awards this morning.

Paula will keep us updated as she hears more on the rebuilding of Issaquah High School. The plan is to begin in 2009. Steve Crawford thinks that, depending on the plans for the SE Bypass, this timeframe may move up even more. When the planning meetings start, she strongly recommends that parents get involved.

There is some frustration at the low turnout of fans at the girls' basketball games—the girls have gone further than ever before in the championships. In the past, the school has offered “rooter” buses, but haven't been able to fill them. We used to have a pep club. Mike Bailey is thinking of ways to motivate the fan support of our teams.

Spring sports tryouts are this week. The athletic handbook is available on the website. One parent asked about the policy on drugs and alcohol, relating to sports: the policy is being looked at, at the District level. Currently, if you are caught abusing drugs or alcohol, you are off the team, with no “buy-back” ability.

Susan Balkman is looking for volunteers for Tolo. Skyline recently had their Tolo, and there were concerns about the dirty dancing and raunchy music lyrics. How can we assure potential chaperones who may consider whether to volunteer? IHS requests the playlist ahead of time. Staff attends the dances and addresses kids' behavior at the dance. There are also dance classes being offered.

IHS is in the middle of an OSPI review this week.

Staff Report – Shannon Ellis

The staff undergoes WASL training next week.

The earlier registration will allow the kids to know their schedules by the end of the year, so they can plan activities, such as Running Starts.

Site Council Report – Nancy Campi

The last meeting was on Feb. 15. They will have someone come talk about the remodel at their next meeting. If you hear any questions, please forward them to Nancy so they can be addressed.

They decided not to do the “Challenge Day” that Liberty does.

The Culminating Project: instead of the career shadow day, they will have a career fair. Kids will pick some to attend, then learn and write about them. The Culminating Project is a graduation requirement and has pieces that are done each of the students' four years, ending with a final presentation.

The big Booster Club event will be on March 11.

The next meeting is on March 15, but because of WASL testing, they are unsure of the time. Check the website.

Legislation Report – Deborah Parsons

Deborah distributed a list of bills that are of interest to the Issaquah PTSA.

The Simple Majority for levies has passed the House, and is in the Senate. There is an amendment to require the school levy elections be held in February or April in order to be allowed to pass with simple majority. This seems like a good amendment and the bill has a good chance.

The legislative session ends next Thursday.

VP Reports

Membership

Nothing to report.

Fundraising

Nothing to report.

Volunteers – Susan Balkman

Susan is looking for chaperones for Tolo. April 1.

PCFC -

PCFC had an Open House which was very well attended.

Committee Reports

VIS Report – Deborah Parsons

All four measures passed easily! Thank you to everyone for their support, and help with signs, phone calls, talking to their neighbors, etc.

Outstanding Educator

Presented at the April staff meeting. Talk to you kids. Get nominations to Deed Chase.

SAT/ACT Readiness

There is a lot of demand, so they may be offering another session after the April break.

Booster Club

Barb Cowen wanted to remind everyone to attend Booster Night at the Barn. Not many people are signed up yet.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Parent Ed Seminar

Linda Frye announced that there will be a parent ed seminar on drug and substance abuse, on March 9, 7 PM, at the Admin Building – Friends of Youth,

Musical

The Musical "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" will be presented on March 9 through March 11, 7:30 – 10:00 PM in the IHS Commons.

Spring Leadership Conference

Copies of the class offerings were distributed. Let Deborah know which classes you are planning to attend.

Upcoming Special Funding Requests

Sue Burke distributed a handout summarizing 6 grant requests. We have earmarked \$1500 for the PCFC reader board. We have also told the Velocity sports program that we would consider granting them an additional (\$1200). We have currently \$600 left allocated for grants. We have approximately \$4300 additional carryover. Plus, we could end up with an additional \$1500-2500 from SAT.

- I-Vision/Varsity TV lighting and equipment (\$2,906.57)

Currently there is one class that does the Varsity TV programs. The equipment was donated several years ago, from homes. Julia Bamba has been seeking grants and donations to be able to offer two classes. She already got a \$10,000 grant for the computers. ISF is considering the big equipment.

Nancy Campi moves that we fund Julia Bamba's funding request for I-Vision. Seconded. Passed.

- Biology/Environmental Science Videos (380.42)

Barb Cowen moves that we buy the science videos for Robert Garretson, up to \$380.42, less his grant if he hasn't spent that yet. Seconded. Motion carries.

We need to check with Kathy Foote on whether he has spent his \$100 teacher grant yet.

- Field trip to Tillicum Village (\$1,631)

Barb Cowen moves that we grant the money for the field trip. Seconded. Motion fails.

We need to talk to Kathy Foote to see if there are other ways to fund this. Also, some members thought that the Tillicum Village experience isn't all that great.

- CD Player for Special Ed Resource (\$381.50)

Barb Cowen moves that we purchase the CD player, provided that the amount does not exceed \$416, and that there are no other building funds available for the purchase. Seconded. Motion Carries.

There were concerns that they went ahead and purchased it before approval, then came to PTA for the money after the fact. They claim that the timing was to take advantage of a special deal on the CD player.

- Ballet video (\$75.47)

Barb Cowen moves that we buy the ballet videos. Seconded. Motion Carries.

Very few fine arts are offered.

- "Pi" Math Contest (\$250)

Lorry Primrose moves that we fund the contest prizes up to \$250. Seconded. Motion Fails.

We funded this last year. We have concerns about the number of kids that participate. This seems more like an ASB expense. Also merchants in the area like to make donations like this. There isn't enough time before the event, and she doesn't have parent volunteers to get the prizes. Money from the math department can not be used for prizes.

We can fund this instead from the student recognition budget.

- Mary Lou Pauly also has a request for (\$2500) for a song-writing program.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at about noon.

Optional Guest Speaker – Junior Parents – Presentation by Senior Celebration Vendor

Next Meeting

The next Issaquah High School PTSA general membership meeting will be on April 7 at 9:30 AM in the Issaquah High School Library.

Deborah Parsons
PTSA Secretary