

General Membership Meeting

April 7, 2006, 9:30 AM
Held at IHS Library

Call to Order – Jiff Searing

Jiff called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. 27 members signed in.

Secretary's Report – Deborah Parsons

Minutes from March

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

Principal's Report – Paula Phelps

Paula is in the middle of second-round interviews for a new assistant principal. Mike Deletis is going to be the principal of Liberty HS next year, so she is looking for a replacement for vice principal.

Testing! It's a very busy time with all the high-stakes testing going on right now. The Stanford test goes from K-11. The high volume of all the tests being taken right now is the reason that Harcourt Brace had the issues with SAT scoring that was in the news recently.

WASL-prep classes taught by Mike Conrath are all done. The classes went very well, especially for the kids who attended regularly. They ended with an assessment and rootbeer float night. There was a large range of abilities amongst the kids, so we will see if this was effective when the kids take the WASL again.

Lakeside-Milam came and talked to the staff on Wednesday. IHS keeps this awareness of drug and alcohol issues a high priority among the staff. Mary Lou expressed praise for how the awareness has been improving over the last year. Paula explained the process: once someone expresses concern about a student, the staff compares notes on how that student behaves throughout the day. Then they decide whether to refer the student to the drug and alcohol counselor, and notify the parents.

Friends of Youth is offering 5 sessions, beginning May 4, on drug and alcohol awareness, called "Guiding Good Choices."

Election of 2006-2007 Officers

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee consisting of Deborah Parsons, Nancy Campi and Sue Burke presents the following slate of officers for nomination:

Co-President:	Marianne Kersten
Co-President:	(position open)
Treasurer:	Diane McGee
Secretary:	Deborah Parsons
Co-Vice President – Volunteers:	Sue Jacobson and Camie Callahan
Co-Vice President – Fundraising:	Sue Burke and Jill Lester
Co-Vice President – Membership:	Caryn Matusiefsky and Lori Anderson
Vice President – Freshman Campus:	(position open)

Nominations from the floor:

Nancy Campi nominated **Susan Hegedus** for Vice President of Freshman Campus. Susan accepted the nomination.

Election

Nancy Campi moves that we vote on the entire slate instead of each office individually. Seconded. Motion carries.

Vote to accept the entire slate of officers as presented. Approved.

Treasurer's Report – Diane McGee

Financial Statement

Diane McGee presented the financial report for March. Income for the month was \$5,800, and spent \$12,000. We currently have \$43,778.10 on hand. Filed for audit.

We have about \$2,600 income over budget. We are also expecting additional funding from an upcoming SAT readiness session. We have already used all of our special funding budget. We are considering moving \$2,400 from excess carryover to special funding.

Tiger Mountain Update

We had some funds reserved for supporting Tiger Mountain, since they dissolved their PTA. They also have a private donor that helps with scholarships. We have given them \$330 out of \$773 so far this year; the remainder will continue to be reserved for Tiger Mountain. Mary Lou has requested that each high school budget \$150 for Tiger Mountain, which would be collected at IHS and distributed to Tiger Mountain.

President's Report – Jiff Searing

Acknowledgements

Thank you to:

- The nominating committee: Deborah Parsons, Sue Burke and Nancy Campi
- Susan Balkman for WASL snacks
- Sue Jacobson and Susan Balkman, VP Volunteers, for getting chaperones to Tolo
- Golden Acorn Committee: Deed Chase, Nancy Campi and Mary Lou Pauly
- SAT/ACT readiness committee: Daniele Tilden
- Margie Gerrity thanked all of the Staff Refreshment volunteers: about 20 people who provide the refreshments for the staff meetings

Special recognition to Nancy Campi for receiving the Outstanding Service Award from the PTSA Council

Camie Callahan suggested that maybe parents from the Freshmen Campus can trade and chaperone our dance, and parents from IHS can chaperone one of theirs.

Housekeeping

Convention is coming up on May 5-7th. We will elect the voting delegates for IHS PTSA later in this meeting.

PTA Council Report

Council changed their standing rules to change the way the Vice Presidents divide the district. They now have a Vice President of High Schools, Vice President of Middle Schools, and two Vice Presidents of Elementary Schools.

Talked about the upcoming convention and the delegate cards that each PTA has.

Grand Ridge Elementary (formerly E-14) chartered a new PTA on March 27. They are looking for a donation of about \$100 from each PTA to help them get started. We will discuss this in May. People are also encouraged to join the Grand Ridge PTA. Membership forms are available on the Grand Ridge website, accessible from the Issaquah School District Website. <http://www.e14.issaquah.wednet.edu/ptsa.asp>

The School Board is becoming more active in keeping their process public for selecting the new Superintendent.

IHS rebuild should start in Fall, 2008.

The next meeting is April 20 at the Library Service Center.

Flo Schandl gave a presentation on Reflections. There were 825 entries from Issaquah. 8 were selected to move on to the Nation Reflections competition.

Staff Report – Shannon Ellis and Susan Graham

We are in the middle of the WASL and Stanford tests.

The quarter ends today. Report cards will be mailed on the 21st. Teachers have to put their quarter grades on Basmati, so some PE classes that haven't shown up before, should now show up.

Students are just now finding out about their college acceptances.

Claudia Cote won the district award for our outstanding career center.

Site Council Report – Nancy Campi

The April site council will still meet, even though the kids will be released early due to WASL.

Legislation Report – Deborah Parsons

Deborah reported on the Legislative session that ended last month. We missed "Simple Majority for Levies" by just 3 votes in the senate. We renewed the Rollback Bill, which brings in about \$700,000 per year for Issaquah. The budget has a provision for recouping costs of fuel for our buses...this is an annual increase of \$79,000 for Issaquah. The budget has provided remediation for all kids not passing this years 10th grade WASL. Issaquah will receive \$190,000 for remediation. WASL alternate assessments, which will allow any student that has failed the WASL twice in any section to take four different alternate routes to pass the WASL. Also, transcripts will no longer carry a "Scholar" designation or WASL score; they will only indicate whether the student passed.

VP Reports

Volunteers

They are looking for volunteers for Staff Appreciation week and the end of the year luncheon.

They are looking for two more volunteers to proctor the AP.

Jane Lee's dad died in a car accident; a card was passed around for signatures.

IMS Spring forum needs volunteers; go to the IMS website.

SAT readiness

There are a few spots left for students who want to take these classes. Check the website.

Membership

Nothing to report.

Fundraising

Nothing to report.

PCFC

Nothing to report.

Committee Reports

Outstanding Educator

We will present this at the May staff meeting. They are still looking for a few more nominations. The forms are available on the website.

Staff Appreciation Week

There is no date scheduled for Staff Appreciation. This is set nationally. Sunset's is the week of May 1st, but that's in the middle of AP testing. Usually there is a breakfast one day, and a chocolate day, then a luncheon on Friday. Mary Lou will talk to Paula about what week to schedule it.

Unfinished Business

Funds Requests

We do have some funds "earmarked" for the Freshman Campus sign and the Velocity Sports program (\$1200). There is also some Link budget (\$1200) that wasn't spent.

We have approximately \$2500 which can be reallocated to Special funding Requests from Excess Carryover.

Songwriter Software

Last year they had 14 original songs produced. This year they will have about 38. They are looking for licenses for the software and 15 new headphones. Next year, the headphones will also be used in a piano class. The licenses are \$150 each. The headphones are \$16 each.

Tabled for special consideration next month.

Tillicum Village

For 25-30 kids who are on IEPs. Most of these kids are on "free and reduced lunch". Goes with the curriculum they are working on in their special ed class. Because it is outside of the classroom, it isn't eligible for most of the building funds for special needs.

We allocate \$750 every year for scholarship/gifts. This has already been given to Cathy Foote.

Even though this only benefits relatively few kids, these are kids who don't benefit from most of our other grants.

Would this be an ongoing expense that should go under Scholarships?

Daniele Tilden moves that we fund it. Seconded. Motion carries.

There is about \$350 left in the scholarship fund that we gave to Cathy Foote.

New Business

Election of Convention Delegates (3)

The State PTA Convention is May 5-7. Deborah Parsons wants to go; Marianne Kersten can probably go only Friday. Mary Lou Pauly will go.

Linda Frye moves that the three delegates to Convention be Deborah Parsons, Marianne Kersten and Mary Lou Pauly. Seconded. Motion carries.

Budget Committee

Marianne, Sue Burke, Diane McGee, Mary Lou Pauly and Jiff Searing volunteered.

Parent Seminar Fall 2006 – Lynn Laks

Asking for PTA support for a parent ed. night in September, right after Curriculum Night. There would also be some associated resources available at the High School. The focus is parent-student support strategies for homework success. They attended one put on by Newport High School. This is similar to the AVID program that Bellevue SD is using, and is now being adopted by the Issaquah School District. AVID is a way of teaching students how to study.

This would involve some teacher volunteers, parent volunteers, and production of resource materials. They talked to Paula about this back in September.

The next step is to figure out the budget and present it to the budget committee to plan for next year.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

Next Meeting

The next Issaquah High School PTSA general membership meeting will be on May 5 at 9:30 AM in the Issaquah High School Library.

Deborah Parsons
PTSA Secretary