

General Membership Meeting

September 9, 2005, 9:30 AM
Held at IHS Library

Call to Order & Introductions – Jiff Searing

Jiff Searing called the meeting to order at 9:36 am. 24 members signed in. Introductions around the room.

Secretary's Report – Deborah Parsons

Minutes from June

Deborah Parsons presented the minutes from the June 10, 2005 General Membership meeting. Accepted as presented.

Thank You Notes

Thank you notes are by the sign-in sheets.

Treasurer's Report – Jiff Searing (for Diane McGee)

Jiff Searing presented the financial reports for July and August. The balance sheet shows \$55,197.36 cash on hand and we have a budgeted excess carry forward of \$10,714.27. We had a monthly income of \$33,173.22 primarily from membership fees and pass the hat. Filed for audit.

We had an audit over the summer. Some suggestions were made on presenting the numbers in a more readable format per Money Matters.

Copies of the July and August bank statements were passed around for review and attached to the Secretary's copy of the minutes.

Nancy Campi added that the Freshman Campus membership is much higher than we had anticipated.

President's Report – Jiff Searing

Acknowledgements

Thank you to:

- ✓ Caryn Matusiefsky and Nancy Kamitsuka for their work in Membership,
- ✓ Beth Las for getting the emergency backpacks updated,
- ✓ Deborah Parsons and Region 2 for the Fall Delivery Conference in August,
- ✓ Gayle Fitzgerald for organizing the whole Registration,
- ✓ All retreat participants for coming and adding content,
- ✓ Diane McGee for getting the statement formats all updated and transferred to Quicken,
- ✓ Mary Lou Pauly for getting the staff lunch together,

Congratulations to Marianne Kersten for her Leadership Academy award.

Issaquah PTSA is at 82% membership.

Housekeeping – Review Parliamentary Procedure

Nancy Campi reviewed the process for "operating by consensus"; we don't take a motion, etc. to approve the Minutes, so if you have something we need to stop and vote, please speak up.

PTA Council Report - None

Training – PTA & The Law

Jiff is planning on attending. If anyone else is interested, please let Jiff know.

Principal's Report – Paula Phelps

Paula reported that so far the school year is going smoothly. It's very different not having 450 freshmen here. The biggest difference is the hallways being much less crowded.

There was an opening day assembly. Brandon Frye volunteered to sing the National Anthem at the last minute. Everyone joined in!

New this year: trying one lunch instead of two; changing the lunch system a little.

Curriculum night is September 20th. Clark, Tiger Mt, and Community Center parking has been reserved. At 6:00 will be college planning. There will also be a tutorial on Family Access and Basmati (online grade reporting), and computer labs open to sign up for e-news.

Planners will be handed out to the kids next week.

We may be adopting a high school in the Gulf area to help with the hurricane relief and enhance understanding of the situation. The goal would be teaching kids to be more aware of others' needs and how to help—how to be good citizens.

The District is looking at the nutrition policy and how to implement it.

We have 1,257 kids right now.

The goal for this year is reading. Staff will do book reports on Varsity TV and helping to facilitate book clubs.

The district Bond and Levy Committee will be presenting their package to the School Board next week. The complete rebuild of IHS is still in the bond package.

Staff Report – Susan Graham

Schedule changes: the trickiest part is keeping the classes balanced—there are no “huge” classes. The counselors will start processing changes next week. The kids coming in for changes have been very polite; thank you.

Thank you to Principal Paula Phelps. We are very lucky to have her here.

Site Council Report – Nancy Campi

First meeting is in October. Meetings are open. If you have anything you want to bring up, contact Nancy or attend a meeting.

Legislation Report – Deborah Parsons

Deborah will be attending Legislative Assembly next month. She presented a survey of issues for people to fill out to determine the State PTA legislative priorities.

VP Reports

Membership

Nancy Kamitsuka reported that we have 1,050 members already entered into the State PTA.

Fundraising

“Pass the Hat” did great. Marianne Kersten wasn't here to present the numbers today.

Volunteers

Sue Jacobson and Susan Balkman didn't have too much to report yet.

Members don't seem to have seen the volunteer form on the back of the membership form. We need to keep last year's database as well.

We still have vacancies for Reflections, Humanitarian, Staff Luncheon and Student Recognition.

Committee Reports

VIS Report – Deborah Parsons

The district Bond & Levy Scoping Committee has completed its initial study and will be making its recommendations to the School Board next Wednesday. Included in the bond package is a complete rebuild of IHS.

Next month we will talk about whether to make a larger donation to VIS for the bond/levy campaign.

SAT Readiness

A mock PSAT test is coming up on September 24th. The SAT readiness class registrations are down—probably because the forms didn't go out with class registrations. They will be putting flyers up and providing more opportunities for the kids to get in. The class is also open to non-IHS kids. Jiff will put a notice in the Issaquah Press today. There will be another class in the spring.

October 15 – PSAT.

Great websites: ACT.org; collegeboard.com.

It is better to take the mock tests as many times as you need because every actual SAT score goes onto the students' transcripts.

Website

Susan Hegedus reported that it's updated once a month on the 1st of the month. Each month, she will send out an email of what needs to be updated and the deadline.

The next deadline is September 18.

Pacific Cascade Freshman Campus

Lorry and Camie weren't here to report.

Unfinished Business

Special Funding Requests – Sub-committee

We need a chair for this committee. This is a new sub-committee to help talk to staff about special funding requests and facilitate the process. Sue Burke and JoEllen Smith volunteered. Forms are on the website and in the mailbox.

Every teacher gets a \$100 teacher grant.

New Business

None.

Guest Speaker – “Reach Higher” by Lynn Laks, Caryn Cisna and Carol Leake

Student support program. Tutoring. Helping kids with stress.

2 components:

- * After-school tutorials conducted by teachers and staff (Tues, Thurs in the library);
- * Workshops (test preparation, organization, etc.)

Cost: estimate \$1,500 to pay the teachers for tutoring time + staff coordinator (up to \$4,139, depending on how big we decide to make this project).

Other needs: parent volunteers to set up the tutorial space, etc.; Honor Society students to help with tutoring (service hours); guest speakers and a staff coordinator.

Newport HS has a similar program in place, paid for as part of their building fund.

Ideally they would like to start this program on the first Tuesday of October.

Because PTSA can't hire staff, it was suggested that the program be driven by the school staff, funded by a grant from PTSA.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at about 11:45 am.

The next Issaquah High School PTSA general membership meeting will be on October 7 in the Issaquah High School Library.

Deborah Parsons
PTSA Secretary