

General Membership Meeting

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

Call to Order & Introductions – Jiff Searing

Jiff called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. 20 members signed in.

Secretary's Report – Deborah Parsons

Minutes from November

Deborah Parsons presented the minutes from the November 4, 2005 General Membership meeting. Accepted as presented.

A thank you letter from ISF was circulated.

Treasurer's Report – Diane McGee

Financial Statement

Diane McGee presented the financial report for November. She has added the Senior Celebration line item and has collected over \$7,000 so far for that. The biggest expense for November was the Directory: \$2,117. Ending cash on hand \$47,275. Filed for audit.

Revised Budget

Senior Celebration has been added. It's budgeted at \$24,000 income and expense.

President's Report – Jiff Searing

Acknowledgements

Thank you to:

- JoEllen for quarterly awards
- Sr. Celebration committee – working hard.
- Susan Hegedus for her work on the website.
- Lori Anderson for getting the directory out; the spiral binding is nice, and less expensive.

Housekeeping

The Silent Auction/Art Walk was last Wednesday. A lot of administrators and school board were there. They estimated that they made \$2,000 for Katrina relief, sister city Picayune. 7 schools were involved, along with some parents and local artists.

PTA Council Report

November (Mary Lou) – Sent out Council Directories. Discussed REET vs Impact Fees. Nominating Committee training in January; we'll elect our Nominating Committee in January. The District does not yet have a webmaster, so there is no consistent approach to e-news. The Council website is IssaquahPTSA.org. It is necessary to report in-kind donations to the IRS. We have received the bronze and silver membership awards. ISF raised \$215,000 at their luncheon; grant applications due February 3.

December (Jiff) – There will not be a District-wide policy on “dirty dancing”, since it doesn't appear to be a District-wide problem. At the January PTSA meeting, there will be a program on standardized testing. There are concerns about the impact of 9th graders taking the WASL. Marianne Kersten has volunteered to be on the District parent-input committee on parent involvement in student learning plans. Apollo will be hosting the Council Golden Acorn celebration. There is a rubric on the Council website for choosing your recipients.

Principal's Report – Paula Phelps

Paula thanked JoEllen again for the Quarterly Awards; these are very much appreciated.

The lock-down on Wednesday was called by the Issaquah Police dept, due to activity very close to the school. They needed to apprehend someone who was not cooperating.

The Art Walk went really well. Julia Bamba and the kids deserve a lot of credit for all of the planning and invitations they sent out, and all that they did to make this successful.

Math and writing labs are meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays. She circulated a calendar showing the schedule of labs. Each costs about \$2,600. The writing lab was funded by a grant from last year.

The math department has put together a "WASL-prep" class. It will run for 6 weeks, 2 days a week. There will be 2 sessions: during the day or after school. Cost \$2,650.

The athletes did terrific last season; they represent us well. The volleyball kids received a letter from opponents' parents commending their behavior. We should be proud of our kids.

The sports flags/banners that were taken down in the gym to put up the mural will be returned. Mike Bailey is working on that.

Staff Report – Shannon Ellis

SOS presented the staff with suicide training. The staff response and awareness has been positive. The staff is becoming more comfortable with referring students with problems.

The SAT Prep class forms are now on the website, as of Tuesday.

The next staff meeting is on Wednesday.

Site Council Report – Mary Lou

The detailed report from Nancy Campi was mailed out with the agenda.

Julia Bamba said that 4 students went to a RAP (Reducing Adolescent Prejudice) at the UW.

Legislation Report – Deborah Parsons

Legislative Roundtable

On November 8, the Region 2 PTAs held their annual Legislative Roundtable. Deborah attended the District 48 breakout session. Most of the discussion was around the Washington Learns committee.

Focus Day

Deborah distributed a flyer and invited everyone to attend Focus Day in Olympia on January 26.

VP Reports

Membership

We are within 65 members of 100% membership.

Scholarship Committee

Peggy has 3 volunteers and needs just two more parent volunteers; this should not be a senior parent. They will meet in May. Beth Las volunteered.

Fundraising

Nothing to report.

Volunteers

Susan Balkman reminded us to contact her if we need volunteers.

Committee Reports

9th Grade Campus

Lorry presented a funding request: they need a reader board. The cost is \$7,500. Principal Dana Bailey determined that ¼ of the cost can come from ASB, and she has another ¼ in her building fund. Skyline will be asking for \$2500 from their membership. What can IHS contribute?

We will be reviewing grants in January.

Senior Celebration

JoEllen reported that they have 76 kids signed up; they want to get as many signed up by December 14 as they can. They will be having a drawing for an iPod on December 15 to encourage the kids to get signed up. They need them signed up, so they can make their January payment. They are building an email list: 181 parents so far. Some parents have donated towards sponsorships for kids who can't afford to participate otherwise.

Website

Susan Hegedus reported that the deadline should have been last week, but we had a snow day. Please get updates to her by next Tuesday.

Quarterly Student Honors

JoEllen reported that 34 students were nominated. They had a breakfast. The next one will be in March, then May. JoEllen will try to increase the number of participating teachers. There may be some confusion with other similarly titled award nominations.

VIS Report – Deborah Parsons

- Phonebanks recap

Over 100 volunteers on "Central night"; over 300 volunteers altogether. About half of the volunteers were staff, too, so we are receiving great support from parents and staff. We identified 7022 registered voters who plan to vote yes.

- Endorsement

Motion: Susan Hegedus moves that we endorse the four ballot issues to be put before the voters on February 7, 2006, as accepted by the Issaquah School District Board of Directors on October 12, 2005:

1. **Replacement Maintenance and Operations levy, to replace M & O Levy expiring in December, 2006, to provide local funding equal to 19% of the school district's operating budget;**
2. **Replacement Capital Levy: \$17 million for educational technology and \$4.85 million for critical capital repairs across the district;**
3. **School Bus Levy: \$2.8 million to buy 52 school buses over the next four years;**
4. **\$241,870,000.00 Construction Bond: to build new schools and purchase land for future schools.**

Seconded. Motion carries.

Deborah will send a letter to Lise Place, VIS endorsement chair.

- Post Card Mailing

Estimated cost: under \$300. Re-allocate from the Presidents' Fund. Approved. Deborah has volunteered to do this. There was a strong preference to have an IHS-specific message on the cards, as well.

Unfinished Business

VIS Endorsement

Covered above.

Scholarship Committee

Covered above.

New Business

January 5 – Evening Meeting?

Would people like to make one of our meetings into a night meeting, for example in January? There wasn't much positive feedback on that suggestion. The 9th grade campus is planning to try this; we'll wait and see how that goes.

Parent Ed

Linda Frye reported that there is a seminar next week on Thursday, Dec 15 at BLMS. The subject is internet safety, including "My Space", etc.

Announcements

Public Meeting – Sex Offender

IMS will be holding a meeting to talk about a sex offender, who has recently moved into the area, at Cougar Ridge, Wed, Dec 14 at 6:30.

Grant Requests to be discussed in January

Mary Lou reported that there is a grant request for the fitness center. This will be discussed in further detail by the guest speaker, Mike Delitas.

Also, there will be a grant request by the IHS Chorale director to start a new program.

Guest Speaker – Michael Bailey, Athletic Director

This year, he has been learning how the sports programs fit together at IHS. He is looking forward to next year, hiring coaches from the pool of teachers who know our kids, bringing the 9th grade campus on board, working with the Booster Club to define roles, etc. Wants to forward the concept of athletics extending the educational day. Wants to see more staff and kids at the games. Wants to see more kids participating in athletics.

Q: Parent coaches? Mike wants to determine the reason the parent wants to coach. He prefers longer commitments to the program, rather than just a short-term interest to coach one season to be with their child.

Q: Freshman Campus? We have busses going between the high schools and the PCFC. We are using facilities there, as well. It is a struggle balancing student participation and facilities use to distribute the impact so that not just one group of students keep having to leave class early to get to events, etc.

Q: Student fans' behavior? Issaquah spectators are getting a bad reputation for behavior. The behavior was unacceptable at the soccer playoffs. Staff is working with that group of students. Parents need to be supportive of discipline.

Q: Banners in the gym? We are re-planning and updating how the banners will be displayed. ASB and Booster Club will be on board to agree what is out-dated, what should be displayed, and how it will be displayed.

Monday is the big athletic directors' meeting with Kingco to determine play schedules for next year.

Guest Speaker –Mike Delitas, Assistant Principal

Booster Club project: IHS Fitness Room. Last year, they raised money and replaced a lot of the fitness equipment. This year, phase 2: expanding it more, and opening it up to include all of the kids. Working with Velocity Sports to get some after-school training. Goal: certify kids to use the equipment safely and training on goals. Each month will have a theme. Looking to fund it partly by PTSA, partly by Booster Club. Request: \$1200 per month for the first 2 months, then the Booster Club will take over the expense for the next months.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at about 11:45 am.

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

Deborah Parsons
PTSA Secretary