

General Membership Meeting

March 2, 2007, 9:30 AM
Held at the IHS Library

Call to Order – Marianne Kersten

Marianne called the meeting to order at 9:37 am. 22 members were present with 20 signed in.

Snacks and coffee were provided in celebration of our Golden Acorn winners.

President's Report – Marianne Kersten

Acknowledgements

- Nominating Committee – Pam, Margie, Camie
- Awards Committee – Lisa, Linda, Anne, Nancy

PTA Council Report

Still no ruling on the Special Ed Funding Lawsuit.

There was a pre-bargaining meeting with the community, the Admin, and the Union – first time event. The bargaining begins this week.

Region 2 Spring Conference – March 10.

A couple of Parent Ed events coming up. Marianne passed around a list.

The Superintendent search – 38 applicants, advanced 9 to the School Board. Selected one above all others: Kelt Cooper will be available to meet the community Monday night at 7, and a coffee on Tuesday morning.

Dr. Barry, Neva Luke, Connie Fletcher and Suzanne Weaver gave a “state of the district” report. Talked about the grant from Microsoft. Neva considers her job to be a problem-solver for teachers. Bargaining is a “balancing act.” Connie talked about partnering together with the Olympia Coalition and working toward passing a teacher salary equalization bill.

Principal's Meeting Report

About 15 people applied to be on the core team to help design the new HS.

Secretary's Report – Deborah Parsons

February Meeting Minutes

Deborah Parsons presented the minutes from the February 2, 2007 General Membership meeting. Accepted as presented.

Thank You Notes – Correspondence

Passed around:

- Our Children magazine
- Handprints
- Convention announcements
- Silent Auction for Juniors announcement

Treasurer's Report – Diane McGee

February Financial Report

Cash on hand: \$56,134. Net income: \$10,029, mostly from Senior Celebrations and SAT Readiness.

Has sent out 1099's to SAT Teachers.

Request: all committee chairs, please look at your budget line item and let her or Marianne know if that is enough, or if it should be changed for next year. Next month we will be working on next year's budget.

Report filed for audit.

New Business

Meeting Structure Review

The Honor Unit application suggests separate board meetings. Would we consider having board meetings at the first part of all of our General Membership meetings?

Would we like to have some night meetings—brief business, longer program?

Our May meeting is during PTA Convention. Would we be able to move that meeting to May 11?

Perhaps next year, we should change our meetings to the second Friday in order to be more timely with the Council report, and give the treasurer more time to get the financial reports out.

Budget Committee

Susan Hegedus, Marianne Kersten and Diane McGee will be starting next month. Looking for additional volunteers.

Unfinished Business

Security Cameras & Emergency Prep

Paula reported that they are working on the cost estimate for upgrading the security cameras. We already have the cameras—we need to get them hooked up. We will need this and other grant requests soon for planning purposes. We will also be doing another “Pass-the-Hat” mailing, and we are looking for an ISF Grant.

Neil anticipates that more supplies will be needed for the storage facility. Working with the Eastside Fire and Rescue on putting together a list.

Nominating Committee Update – Pam Ratcliffe, Margie Gerrity, Camie Callahan

Nominating:

- President - Marianne Kersten
- Vice President – Freshmen Campus - *Open*
- Vice President – Fundraising – Barbara Rappoport and Beth Las
- Vice President – Membership – Anne Moore and Deborah Parsons
- Vice President – Volunteers – Jane Lee and Camie Callahan
- Secretary – Lori VanDeMark
- Treasurer – Susan Hegedus

Will be voting at the April meeting. This will also be the deadline for discounted Convention registration.

After the election, we will immediately start working on the Standing Committee chairs, so we can have that all filled in before school lets out in June.

Principal's Report – Paula Phelps

Thank you to those who represented PTA at the School Board meeting, speaking in favor of increasing the size of the High Schools and converting the Freshman Campus to a middle school. Hard work has already started in planning for the IHS rebuild. They are fast-tracking this. Paula likes the architects we are working with. Expect to have some parts ready to be moved into in 2009, the project completed in 2010. Destruction begins in April, 2008.

Snow day make-up: it was quiet during the 4 make-up days in February. Approximately 450 kids were out each day. On March 14, and April 18, WASL Wednesdays – the school day would typically end at 12:15 – the kids will have a full day instead. School ends on Monday, June 25.

Class scheduling is all done. Of all four grades, only 26 kids still have incomplete schedules. Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped during registration days.

Girls basketball team has qualified for State. The boys basketball team fell short by just a few points. Kyle Corbit, a sophomore, scored a perfect score on the ACT.

We recently had to expel 5 students for drug and alcohol use. It is important to take this seriously.

Our department chairs have decided to change the valedictorian policy. The current policy says the student must have a 4.0 gpa. There is no 4.0 student this year, yet there are some high ranked kids who have 3.99 gpa, who currently can't be valedictorian because of the policy. They also want to internally weigh grades of AP or advanced courses, too.

The musical – South Pacific – will be on March 15, 16 and 17th.

It has been a difficult year with staff dealing with family issues, or illnesses. Paula assures us that they are doing their best to assure continuity for the students, etc. as much as possible.

Staff Report – Susan Graham

No report.

Site Council Report – Paula Phelps for Jiff Searing

Meeting on the 8th to go over the advisory team.

During their regular meeting, they will be going over the GPA issues.

Legislation Report – Deborah Parsons

Focus Day Recap

Over 200 PTA members attended. 30-40 from Issaquah. From our PTA: Deborah, Marianne, Susan Hegedus, Deed Chase and Anne Moore attended.

Bill Update

Last month the Issaquah PTSA Council voted to support Simple Majority for Levies Only. Recently a bill for levies only, with a November-only amendment failed to pass out of the Senate.

We are working closely with Dean Mack and our Legislators to make sure that money that comes to us from the State budget does not end up inadvertently hurting our school district.

Our most likely success this year will be the salary equalization bill.

VP Reports

Pacific Cascade Freshman Campus – Marianne for Susan Hegedus

The March 21st meeting will be a 10 am, not 7 pm. They are hoping to have the PCFC Counselors give a presentation.

On April 18th at 7 pm, Suzanne Weaver, from the School Board, will be a guest speaker.

On May 16th at 10 am, Marianne Kersten and Kara Neary (IHS and SHS PTSA Presidents) will be the guest speakers.

8th Grade Parent Night is Tuesday, March 6th at 6:30.

The PCFC administration and Site Council have sent a letter to Ron Sims asking King County to address safety concerns along Issaquah-Fall City Road.

Membership – Caryn Matusiefsky

We currently have 1,252 members.

Fundraising

We will be doing another Pass-the-Hat mailing to raise more money for grants.

Volunteers – Susan Jacobson and Camie Callahan

WASL snack volunteers – Wednesday.

Tolo chaperones are needed.

Need AP testing proctors.

Committee Reports

Golden Acorn – Lise Place

Looking for nominations for the Outstanding Educator award. Due April 6. Will be announced in May.

Presentation of Golden Acorns:

- **Susan Hegedus**
- **Marianne Kersten**

- **Diane McGee**
- **Danielle Tilden**

Website

Susan still needs some committee chairs to send in descriptions and job duties.

Others

Parent ed – if you have ideas or events you would like to see, contact Carol Leake. Carol will be attending a drug and alcohol program at Inglewood next week.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 for the program. The next General Membership meeting will be held on April 6 at 9:30 am in the IHS Library.

Program – Claudia Cote and Cathy Blankenstein from the IHS Career Center

Claudia and Cathy reviewed the resources and tools available to the kids, for finding jobs, choosing and applying for colleges, and scholarships and financial aid.

Prepared by Deborah Parsons
Secretary, IHS PTSA 2.6.45