

General Membership Meeting

Call to Order and Welcome:

- President Marianne Kersten called meeting to order at 9:39 am.

Secretary's Report:

- Secretary Lori VanDeMark presented the December 14, 2007 minutes for review. Approved as written.
- PTSA mail received was available for review.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer Susan Hegedus presented the December 2007 Financial Report, adding that the Financial Review will be done on Monday.
- Our official name change to "Issaquah High PTSA" has been filed with the State. It had been suggested by State PTA that all PTAs and PTSAs remove the word "School" from their names.

President's Report:

- Acknowledgements: Marianne thanked the following volunteers:
 - Pam Ratcliffe for Senior Events
 - Caryn Cissna, Lynn Laks, and Carol Leake for Parent Education (Caryn explained that part 2 of the seminar "How to Help Your Student Succeed in High School and Beyond" will take place on March 4, 7-9pm at IHS and will address challenges students face such as drug and alcohol use, driving, etc. Ken Wong is speaker.
- Principal Meeting: Principal Paula Phelps has been working with the Science Department regarding a special funds request to provide after-school help for science, similar to the writing and math help programs.
 - Attorney General Rob McKenna will speak to students in two groups on Feb. 8. These assemblies may be recorded with pod cast available for interested parents.

Council Meeting:

- The District as a whole is at 92% membership, with 14 schools meeting 100%.
- Parent Education events will be posted in upcoming e-news.
- Suzanne Weaver and Connie Fletcher clarified the roles of the School Board and Superintendent.
- The School Board is taking action on graduation requirement issues. For example, as of year 08/09, the Occ. Ed. requirement will reduce to 1 year from 2. High school web sites are being redesigned and will post further info regarding these changes in future. Nancy Campi elaborated that course requirements remain the same for students after they begin 9th grade, unless any changes are of benefit. Marianne added that waivers will be given for PE for sports, but without credit. A graduation requirement committee will be formed on Jan. 23.

Legislation Report:

- Anne Moore announced that Focus Day is Feb. 13 in Olympia. Governor Gregoire will speak to the group at 10:30 am, followed by a brown bag lunch and meetings with legislators. Anne encouraged members to attend.

New Business:

- Region 2 Director Nominees: Marianne explained that the Heather Gillette (current Issaquah Council Co-President) and Audrey Bennett (Bellevue Council Co-Chair) have been placed in nomination. Our unit will cast one vote on our behalf. **Colleen Volk made a motion to elect Heather Gillette as Region 2 Director. Seconded, passed.**
- Special Funds Requests: The Science Department asks for \$1800 to pay for after-school science help (including lab make-ups) to be held in science classrooms for 1 1/2 hrs, twice weekly, beginning 2nd semester to June; teacher Ellen Jarvinen requests funds to assist with printing costs of the 4 remaining student magazines this year, to a maximum amount needed of \$4848.13; Suzanne Goodman asks to consider increasing the number of (typically \$4-\$500) scholarships given; Mr. Moore may also have a future request for PTSA to consider. Discussion followed. If funds are given to print the magazine, PTSA will be allowed to advertise in the issue. Scholarships will be discussed again next month, as they are judged in March or April. **Jody Mull made a motion to fund the school magazine for \$1700. Seconded, passed. Anne Moore made a motion to contribute \$1800 to the after-school science program. Seconded, passed.**

Unfinished Business: The Nominating Committee of Nancy Campi, Jane Lee, and Deed Chase plan to send an e-mail asking for nominations.

Meeting adjourned 10:15 am

Board of Directors Meeting

Call to Order: President Marianne Kersten called meeting to order at 10:15 am.

Staff Report:

- Counselor Susan Graham reported that they are very close to having met with all juniors - reviewing credit status, GPA, and plans beyond high school. She added that the career center and e-news have useful information for parents.
- PSAT results have been available for students to pick up.
- Forms are available in the counseling office for schedule change requests. Volunteers will be needed to assist with registration in the computer lab in February. Marianne asked that a synopsis on course changes be included in the e-news. A goal is to have the course guide online this year. There will be a high school planning night on Feb. 6 for sophomore and junior parents. 9th grade parents are welcome to attend as well.
- A recent staff meeting was centered around the rebuild. Susan noted the enthusiasm and good ideas brought forth.
- Caryn Cissna asked if 9th graders are able to attend after-school science help at IHS. Ms. Phelps will check into this.

Principal's Report:

- Principal Paula Phelps discussed the bomb threat that occurred on December 18. A detailed, typewritten note had been found in a boys' bathroom. She noted that the students were fabulous about evacuating the campus very quickly. Police, bomb experts and trained dogs were on campus and searched the bldg for 4 to 5 hrs. Thanks to a tip from a student, the person responsible was arrested and confessed. It was suggested that the e-news explain the consequences of making a bomb threat, which is a felony and to include this information in the school newspaper.
- Rebuild: The phasing aspect should be developed and decided upon in a couple of weeks. Most staff would prefer to endure more difficulties, such as no gyms or commons for a while, if it gets the job done quicker and for less money. In the future the main gym will have capacity for 1800. Next year, PTSA meetings will most likely be held off-campus.
- Great things happening: Sophomore honors teachers have been conducting impressive student debates in class; 13 physics students will travel to Baltimore, MD to present a paper about the (PTSA-funded) hot water collection/energy conservation project.
- Of concern: The behavior of some student spectators at sporting events has been a problem - mostly bad language and poor sportsmanship that reflects badly on our school. Administrators are working to address this problem.
- Colleen Volk thanked Ms. Phelps for her leadership.

VP Reports:

- Membership: Anne Moore reported that IH PTSA membership is currently at 1327.
- Awards: Lacey Leigh made Golden Acorn and Outstanding Advocator nomination forms available, noting that they can also be found online and in the office. Deadline for submission is Feb. 15. Forms can be turned in to the office or e-mailed to Lacey. After Feb. break, the committee of Lacey, Lise Place, Nancy Campi, and Lori VanDeMark will meet to score submissions. A recent recipient list is on the PTSA web site. Nancy reminded that the awards are given based on the previous 12 months actions. The Outstanding Educator Award will be given later in the year.
- Cultural Exchange Night is Jan. 25, 4:30-8:30 pm in the Commons. Students and their families are encouraged to attend.
- ISF: The "Calling for Kids" campaign will take place in spring. Colleen Volk is our representative. Priorities this year involve teacher training and National Board Certification for teachers. Our PTSA will be asked to donate money to help with a mailing.
- Site Council: Lise Place reported that boundary review would be discussed at the next meeting. Caryn Cissna asked about our District's participation in the "Healthy Youth Survey". Nancy Campi offered to gather more information about this at Site Council and report back.

Meeting adjourned 11:05 am

Following the business meeting, Superintendent Dr. Steven Rasmussen spoke to the group and answered questions.

Prepared by Lori VanDeMark
Secretary, IH PTSA 2.6.45