

General Membership Meeting

Program:

Emily Carl, ASB Advisor, discussed current ASB activities relating to Homecoming week and efforts to increase involvement among all students.

Call to Order and Welcome:

President Marianne Kersten called meeting to order at 9:55 AM, introducing Craig Nelson of Issaquah Rotary who explained their involvement in a foreign exchange student program. A 16 year-old boy from Thailand is being sponsored at IHS this year. Additional families are needed to host him during the winter and spring 3-month intervals. Rotary also aims to recruit students and families to participate in a short-term summer exchange program. Flyers were available.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary Lori VanDeMark presented the September 14, 2007 minutes for review. Approved as presented.

- Correspondence and miscellaneous flyers were passed around the room.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Susan Hegedus presented the financial report for September and received no questions. (see September 2007 financial report)

- Susan presented a rearranged version of the 2007-2008 budget, explaining that permanent line item numbers were assigned in order to link like items (having both income and expenses) and for additional clarity.
- Changes to two budget items were proposed: Parent Ed to increase to \$600 from \$500 (to cover the recent seminar) and the ISF Luncheon to increase to \$300 from \$250 (to cover the increase in suggested donation of attendees). Margie Gerrity moved to increase funding of ISF Luncheon to \$300. Seconded, passed. Susan also noted the line 1000-03 was added to track in-kind donations. Marianne reminded committee chairs to keep track of these donations via a form on the IH PTSA web site (anything over \$25). The top portion of the form would be submitted to Susan with the bottom portion going to the donating company as a receipt. Anne Moore moved to approve the revised IH PTSA 2007-2008 budget as presented. Seconded, approved.

President's Report:

Acknowledgements – Marianne thanked the following volunteers:

- Linnie Laks, Caryn Cissna, and Carol Leake for the Oct. 2 seminar, "How to Help Your Student Succeed in High School and Beyond", which was well-attended and received positive feedback from parents.
- Danielle Tilden and Sue Jacobson for the SAT/ACT Readiness Program. Danielle advised that arrangements will be made by e-mail only, rather than by phone and that no special accommodations will be made. Dates are available on the web site.
- Nancy Campi for the Drug and Alcohol Awareness program Mock Crash, held every other year for Jrs. and Srs. and the Sophomore Save 6K Assembly dealing with teen driving and the dangers of methamphetamine.
- Deborah Parsons and Lori VanDeMark for work on e-news.
- Attorney General Rob McKenna will speak at two assemblies in February addressing issues of access to alcohol, the meth. epidemic, and identity theft. He will answer questions from students.
- Marianne reviewed a PTSA policy that states that any members offering the service of their business must avoid conflict of interest.
- Council Report - The following was discussed at Council:
 - PTAs contributing to the funding of technology in schools, such as white boards
 - Review of goals and legislative issues at the School Board meeting
 - Potential grants available from the Greater Issaquah Youth and Family Network
 - Superintendent Dr. Rasmussen's admiration for the PTA Community and level of volunteerism
 - The School Board's dinner this week with all ASB officers
 - IMS teacher Lorna Gilmore's nomination for State Teacher of the Year
 - The new biology curriculum's implementation in second semester
 - The goal to reach a decision regarding the middle school PE waiver issue by Feb. 08
 - The elementary level "Everyday Math" curriculum's current implementation
 - Dr. Rasmussen realizes that boundary review and change is a challenging process, but is optimistic. Data is being gathered with hopes for completion June 2008.

- Region 2 Report – The “PTA and the Law” course is offered October 16, 9 am–12pm, Issaquah School District office and Oct. 18, 6-9 pm at Mercer Island HS. Those interested in attending are asked to contact Deborah Parsons.
- Principal Meeting
 - The date for graduation has been determined to be June 12, 2 pm at Safeco Field.
 - No special funding requests have yet been applied for. There may be interest in funding science and foreign language help in the library on Wednesday mornings.
 - There has been parental interest in expanding the hours the library is open after school.

Legislation Report:

Deborah Parsons thanked PTSA for sending her to Legislative Assembly and announced the top 5 voted priorities to be:

1. K-12 education funding
 2. Math and science education
 3. Quality teaching
 4. Student support, involving counselors
 5. Special education funding.
- She noted that “funding inequities” has risen on the priority list to #9, as other districts are also becoming concerned.
 - Legislative Roundtable will be Nov. 15, 7-9 pm, Newport HS and is a good opportunity to meet with legislators.
 - Focus Day is Feb. 13 in Olympia
 - Simple Majority: PTSA is organizing to call registered voters to remind them to vote on Nov.6. Those interested in helping are asked to contact Deborah Parsons. She passed around a volunteer sign up sheet for the dates Oct. 17 & 18, Oct. 30, and Nov. 2 & 4. Anne Moore also passed around additional information and donation envelopes for the campaign of which IH PTSA has endorsed.

Volunteers: Camie Callahan announced that many more volunteers are needed to chaperone the Homecoming Dance on Oct. 20. Jane Lee proposed swapping chaperone duties with Skyline in future, as some students object to their own parents attending their dance. She will check into this further.

New Business: None

Unfinished Business: None

Meeting adjourned 10:47 AM

Board of Directors Meeting

Call to Order: President Marianne Kersten called meeting to order at 10:47 AM

Principal’s Report:

Principal Paula Phelps thanked PTSA for parental help, specifically mentioning that snacks provided at staff meetings are the envy of other schools!

- 5 people attended the Principal’s coffee. The issue of how to best deal with new students was raised.
- Students behaved very well during the Mock Crash and Sophomore Save 6K Assemblies.
- The Homecoming kick-off assembly is today, with events planned for next week.
- Ms. Phelps thanked Caryn Cissna, Lynn Laks and Carol Leake for their organization of the October 2 seminar. Extra copies of the informational packets are available in the Counseling Office.
- A letter has been drafted to explain to parents complicated WASL issues.
- Answering a question from Deed Chase about Wed. morning teacher time, Ms. Phelps explained that the new contract has provided for more structure in use of this time and many ideas have been proposed. The overall goal involves math, but includes various approaches to full building, group work, and individual progress. For example, all teachers will be trained to develop and maintain a working web site.
- The lunch period is 40 minutes long with a five minute passing.
- Tonight’s football game is with Skyline. According to King Co. Rules, students are not allowed to go to the opposite team’s side, but as many IHS and Skyline students are friends, Ms. Phelps feels that some mingling will not pose a problem. Another King Co. Rule states that students are not allowed to “tail gate’ at another’s school.

Staff Report:

Susan Graham noted that this has been a trying week for staff as they attempt to navigate Family Access. A glitch has been discovered with the Q1 column, as well as with letter grade and percent discrepancies. The column for the semester grade is accurate.

Site Council:

Lise Place announced that the first meeting will be Oct. 17. Those with questions are asked to refer them to Lise or to attend the meeting.

VP Reports:

- **Membership:** Anne Moore reported that we currently have 1,304 members. Full Time Equivalent population is roughly 1,289, therefore we will have reached the goal of 100% membership when the fees have been sent in this month. Emphasis is placed on increasing staff membership, which currently stands at 39 of 67 teachers (58%). Deborah Parsons made forms available for the new category of "supporter" membership. She plans to send invitations to join at this level to alumni parents.
- **Fundraising:** Beth Las noted that she is still receiving matching "Pass the Hat" funds. She plans to make matching funds forms available at registration next year for large companies such as Microsoft and Boeing.
- No proceeds have yet been received from "Swerve" Driving School. Beth will check to see how much money is due and when they pay. Swerve will speak about teen driving at our next PTSA meeting, which is Nov. 8 at 6:30 pm.
- **Volunteers:** 14 volunteers are also needed on Oct. 20 (the same day as the Homecoming dance) for the PSAT. Contact Jane Lee or Camie Callahan.
- **Web Site:** Gayle Fitzgerald was recognized for keeping the web site updated and for working on the directory.
- **SAT Readiness:** A panel discussion to aid students in the college prep process is being planned for late May. Margie Gerrity suggests having current seniors on the panel to speak to juniors about the complicated college application process. A lunch panel between those seniors and the juniors will be considered.
- **PCFC:** Marianne reported on behalf of Jody Mull that curriculum night took place last Tuesday and that the first PTSA meeting was well attended.
- **ISF:** Deborah Parsons is putting together a table for the ISF Luncheon, Oct. 18. Contact Deborah if interested in attending.
- **Quarterly Student Honors:** Deed Chase announced the QSH breakfast dates to be: Nov. 15, Feb. 7, and May 15. She added that she hopes to increase the number of teachers who nominate students for the award.

Other:

Marianne added that on Nov. 1, there will be a special School Board meeting addressing college admission requirements. Discussed will be the limitations of a 6-period day and PE and Occupation Ed graduation requirements.

Meeting adjourned 11:42 AM

Prepared by Lori VanDeMark
Secretary, IH PTSA 2.6.45