

Issaquah High PTSA, Unit 2.6.45
December 14, 2007
Issaquah High School Library
Proper notice was given to all members – quorum present

General Membership Meeting

Call to Order and Welcome:

President Marianne Kersten called meeting to order at 9:45 am.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary Lori VanDeMark presented the November 8, 2007 minutes for review. Approved as presented.

- PTSA mail received was available for review.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Susan Hegedus announced that the approved funding request from October and PTSA insurance have been paid for.

- See November 2007 Financial Report.

President's Report:

Principal Meeting - Because PTSA no longer funds after-school writing/math help and few teacher grant requests have been received, discussion followed addressing how PTSA can best support academics at IHS. Possibilities raised include funding approx. \$2100 for after school science help, increasing the number of scholarships given, and helping to pay for the yearbook and/or school monthly magazine. Anyone with ideas is asked to contact Marianne. Susan Hegedus added that the carryover estimate on the budget does not yet reflect the \$5,000 additional received from "Pass the Hat".

- The Financial Review Committee, comprised of Lise Place, Camie Callahan, and Jan West, will begin in January.
- Nancy Campi noted that funds dedicated toward the Centennial Celebration were never spent and, as the date has passed, these funds should be reallocated - possibly to something that supports the rebuild process.
- Acknowledgements – Marianne thanked the following volunteers:
 - Deed Chase for Quarterly Student Honors (this quarter's breakfast event honored 73 students in the Library. Deed asked for help in preparing breakfast goods for the next QSH.)
 - Jill Lester and Blythe Meigs for Reflections
- Site Council is discussing the possibility of the Library remaining open for longer hours.

Legislation Report:

Marianne announced, on behalf of Deborah Parsons, that Focus Day will be Feb. 13 in Olympia.

Membership:

A mailing is to be sent to former IHS parents inviting them to join as supporting members.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Deed Chase, Nancy Campi, and Jane Lee volunteered to serve on this highly honored committee. Training will take place on Jan. 29., 9-11 am, at the District Admin. Bldg.

Meeting adjourned 10:04 am

Board of Directors Meeting

Call to Order: President Marianne Kersten called meeting to order at 10:04 am

Principal's Report:

Principal Paula Phelps noted that she would soon be on her way to the new biology curriculum adoption meeting.

- Issaquah High School has been awarded the Silver Medal for High Schools from *US News and World Report* Magazine. Links to more information regarding specific criteria will be including in the forthcoming IHS e-news.
- A model for the rebuild was at school yesterday. Staff have had the opportunity to review plans and provide input. She noted that staff are excited, but realize that the process will be challenging for two years.
- Curriculum review has just been completed. AP Biology will be added next year.
- Ms. Phelps remarked on the incredible job students did with the school play "Singing in the Rain". She added that they are looking forward to the new Performing Arts Center.

- The first round of senior exit interviews has been completed, with community members commenting on how impressed they were with students.
- Ms. Phelps praised the music programs for their incredible performances and for working so well together.
- A goal is for the rebuild to be complete by fall 2010 (half completed fall 2009). During the process, there will be an auxiliary gym available (to be used as a lunchroom, for example). Also under consideration is the use of part of Clark Elementary for some classrooms. This would be likely to some extent, even if Clark were not closed.
- Those interested in serving on the Boundary Review Committee are asked to contact Ms. Phelps.
- Ms. Phelps acknowledged Emily Carle's efforts in preparing assemblies and for organizing the food drive.

Staff Report:

Susan Graham noted that the Monday e-news will explain PSAT results.

- Counselors have been meeting with sophomores regarding stress management and with juniors regarding high school/college requirements, and planning beyond high school.
- Well over 100 exit interviews have been completed. She explained more about the process and notes that more information and the specific questions asked could be found on the Career Center web site.

Site Council:

Lise Place reported that Site Council will look at the rebuild in January. In fall of '09, when freshman return to IHS, activities will be planned to aid in successful transition of the two classes of new students.

- **College Application:** This year, students are required to have their part of the college application process completed before submitting to counselors who then complete their part. Ms. Phelps has received some positive feedback from parents who noticed that students were not procrastinating. She would like to collect anecdotal evidence from any parents who may have had problems with this new system. It was stressed that it is imperative for students to know deadlines well in advance so they can begin early enough (particularly if they are applying for early decision) and that timelines be consistent. This issue is of significant concern to parents and it was agreed that Lise will pursue this at Site Council. It was added that a separate transcript is needed for those who have attended BCC "Running Start", even though these classes are included on the IHS transcript. Parents were also informed that students may meet with counselors during spring of their junior year.

Council Meeting:

Marianne reported that, as a part of the King County Green Schools Program, our District has saved significantly on water, electricity, and garbage costs, despite opening new schools.

- Decisions regarding new graduation requirements have stalled. A graduation requirement committee may be formed in January to report in June. Potential changes include requiring another year of math, decreasing one year of occupation education, and eliminating credit for extra-curricular sports (although PE credits could be waived).
- Superintendent Dr. Rasmussen had stated that Clark Elementary would not be sold, regardless of the decision for use, to be made in 2008/2009. He reminded that this school has been closed in the past and subsequently reopened.

VP Reports:

- **Fundraising:** A second chance "Pass the Hat" mailing will be sent in January or February.
- **PCFC:** Jody Mull noted that "Reflections" went well, although with a reduced number of entrees. The holiday breakfast is taking place this week. The next PCFC PTSA meeting will be January 17.
- **Senior Events:** Pam Ratcliffe announced that there have been 257 reservations for the senior party, with 3-4 students requesting full scholarships (437 seniors in the class; 280 spaces). A fundraising chair is needed. The recent fundraiser at Barnes and Noble raised \$570. Senior Breakfast and Baccalaureate plans are underway.
- **ISF:** Jody Mull announced that this year's ISF goal will be \$300,000 and will focus on staff development. Look for a Zoomerang survey with a short turn-around to be offered soon. The biology curriculum will be in effect 2nd semester. Club 7 (SafeNet) is doing well. The after school homework club is well attended with an average of 28 students per day. The Voice program currently serves 111 students with 85 mentors.
- **Parent Education:** Carol Leake highlighted upcoming courses addressing drugs and substance abuse. Details for these and others can be found on the ISD web site.
- **Golden Acorn:** Lacey Leigh asks that members begin thinking about award nominations. Forms will be available in January and February. The committee will meet, choose, and announce recipients in March.

Meeting adjourned 11:09

Following the business meeting, Neil Lasher, Campus Security Officer, spoke about Emergency Preparedness and took questions from members.

Prepared by Lori VanDeMark
Secretary, IH PTSA 2.6.45