

General Membership Meeting

Call to Order and Welcome: Co-President Jody Mull called meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Issaquah Schools Foundation: Debbie Rossman announced that the ISF Luncheon will be next Thursday, Oct. 16th. ISF Liaison training took place 2 weeks ago. A list of grants given to IHS by the Foundation is being compiled. Proportionately, IHS has received more grants than other schools. This year's theme is "Nourish Every Mind".

Secretary's Report: Secretary Lori VanDeMark presented the Sept. 12, 2008 minutes for review. Accepted as written. The President's notes from the September meeting will be attached to the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Susan Hegedus reported that \$19,338 has been received from "Pass the Hat", close to the budgeted goal. Donations are still coming in.

- See September Financial Report.

Acknowledgements: Sue Jacobson and Marcia Davis were thanked for organizing the Parent Ed course "How to Help Your Student Succeed in High School and Beyond", which was attended by roughly 100 people.

- Blythe Meigs was thanked for work with the SAT/ACT Readiness program.

Council Report: Ron Thiele spoke at Council, encouraging schools to check the District calendar when planning events so as to avoid conflicts.

- Middle schools are feeling the effects of continued increased enrollment. Boundary changes and the conversion of PCFC will help in the future.
- Members were encouraged to attend the "PTA and the Law" seminar in October.
- Legislative Roundtable will be Nov. 20 at Newcastle Elementary.
- State PTA has endorsed a "no" vote on Initiative 985, which would redefine use of carpool lanes, taking money from the State general fund and possibly affecting the education budget.
- Those in attendance at the Council meeting were divided into discussion groups by school level. The high school level group discussed revisioning of the high school experience with regards to academics, sports, and daily schedules. Community service was also discussed. A survey will be conducted to gain input from students, staff, and parents.
- Work is being done to improve future online registration at schools.
- The District's new web site is up and running. An updated IHS site will be established next.
- Patrick Murphy, new Executive Director of Secondary Schools, has joined all 3 high schools as a supporting member.
- IHS will be the "Spotlight Unit" at the December Council Meeting, where the focus will be on challenges.
- Council is currently accepting nominations for the Awards and Nominating Committees. Our PTSA will ask for nominees to these same committees next month.

Principal's Meeting: The Homecoming game and dance went great, with no problems. Approx. 800 attended.

- Staff appreciate snacks provided by PTSA for their meetings.
- As IH PTSA has nearly reached its budgetary goal, teachers were informed that grants will be filled, money is available for Special Funding Requests, and the After-school Science Lab will be funded. 32 teachers have joined IH PTSA so far. Reminder flyers have been placed in teachers' boxes encouraging them to join.

Senior Celebrations: Jody explained that this is the 3rd year that the committee has been under the IH PTSA umbrella sharing insurance coverage. The 3 committee events are Grad Night, Baccalaureate, and Senior Breakfast.

- Camie Callahan reported that transportation options for grad night are being explored, as District buses cannot be used. Marianne Kersten explained that private Laidlaw buses could be hired, with the District coordinating a discount. Cost for this is expected to be roughly \$4000.
- Fund raising partially offsets the cost of the estimated \$150 tickets for Grad Night. It was noted that PTSA should not fund raise at football games, as this would compete with ASB and Booster Club. Targeted fundraisers can use PTSA and school resources, such as the web site and e-news, to advertise. \$1700 has been raised so far through a "Sally Foster" fundraiser. A Barnes and Noble fundraiser might be considered and has been done in the past.

- Treasurer Susan Hegedus suggested that the committee develop their own budget, working within the IH PTSA budget.
- There have been questions as to who will chair the committee next year and when fund raising begins. New chairs will be chosen in spring. They would not begin fund raising until the next school year.
- An ASB auction will take place in November, earlier in the year than is typical.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am

Board of Directors Meeting

Call to order: Co-President Jody Mull called meeting to order at 10:15 am.

Site Council: Karin Allen reported that the first IHS Site Council meeting yet this year is expected to be in November. PCFC SC has met. It was noted that staff at PCFC are happy to stay as the Freshman Campus for an additional year.

VP Reports:

Membership: Anne Moore stated that membership is at 1,115, with the goal of 100% being at 1275. Staff are encouraged to join. All committee chairs need to be members. Supporting membership is offered at \$10 to community members. Gayle Fitzgerald is working on the directory. Distribution is anticipated by the end of October.

Fundraising: Barbara Rappoport feels confident that the "Pass the Hat" goal will be met. Matching funds are still coming in. Another "Pass the Hat" and Membership mailing might be sent out in January or earlier.

Committee Reports:

SAT/ACT Readiness: Blythe Meigs Reported that the 2:45 class was full and the 5:00 class nearly so. More volunteer proctors were needed to maintain better control of students who were chatty and took extended breaks. The possibility of testing in classrooms was raised. This would be easier to control and would be more like the actual test.

Volunteers: Lisa Gaan noted that she has enough volunteers for the approaching PSAT. Volunteer lists are available for committees. There is an ad-hoc list with over 200 volunteers available for those needing volunteers. Contact Lisa.

Parent Ed: Handouts from the recent parent ed class are available on the web site. Plans are to repeat the course next year.

Senior Events: Camie Callahan announced that Baccalaureate will be June 6. It will take place at the Mormon Temple as there is no fee to use the facility. Graduation date is June 9, 5 pm at Safeco Field. This date is unlikely to change.

Newcomers: Deed spoke on behalf of Caryn Cissna that packets for new families have been put together and are available in the Counseling Office.

E-news: Deborah Parsons will send the next e-news on October 31. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 27.

Principal's Report/Construction: Principal Paula Phelps introduced Royce Nourigat, Program Manager for the construction project, who gave an update:

- The project delay is not due to permitting, but to necessary revisions to the hallway and atrium relating to fire hazard and smoke control. A new permit package will be delivered on Wed. and is expected to take 4 months to be approved.
- The aim is to hire a large contractor who can handle a job this big at a faster pace. The first phase of classrooms, gyms, and commons is due to be complete fall 2010.
- Ms. Phelps noted that basketball and wrestling will be held at IHS this year, but gymnastics will be off-campus.
- The remainder of construction, including the Performing Arts Center, is due to be complete Fall 2011.
- During construction, no one will need to travel long distances between classes or cross construction zones.
- The job will be put out to bid end Dec./early Jan., with bid opening end Jan./early Feb. The city might authorize a demolition permit ahead, allowing a smooth flow from demolition into construction. A good price is anticipated, as the project is going out to bid early.
- Ms. Phelps added that baseball, soccer, and tennis would stay on campus, but football is likely to leave for 1 year.
- Work is currently underway to redesign the ramp to Clark, which will become a permanent access point between the schools and can be gated. Once designed and approved, it would be built within a month.
- As to the traffic plan along 2nd Ave., the City is negotiating mitigation for roadways because of anticipated increase in student driving. Mr. Nourigat feels these issues will not impede progress.

Principal's Report: Students are allowed to walk to IMS to catch the 3:45 pm activity bus after first picking up a pass in the office.

- The year is going well. Students have been very adaptable.
- A portable restroom for staff is being added to the upper campus.
- Homecoming week was successful, with 800 students attending the dance. The Meydenbauer Center worked well, being easier to chaperone.
- Work on the "High School Experience" is underway, soliciting input from parents, community, and students.

- Online registration is being developed for next August.
- Ms. Phelps noted that the most fun she has is in visiting classrooms. She has been to about half so far and is always surprised by how engaged the students are in learning.
- As the "Principal's Coffee" has not been widely attended, Ms. Phelps would like to develop a new parent meeting format. Please e-mail Paula with any suggestions. She proposed a series of 4 meetings at which there would be open conversation based on PTSA-suggested topics. Parents are able to make appointments to meet with her at any time.
- Grades will be posted to Family Access by the end of the day, Oct. 10.
- Several students have received tickets for speeding on 2nd Ave. The 20mph law is in effect 2 hours before school starts and extends throughout the day. She will clarify and broadcast details on I-vision and e-news.
- Students who have paid for parking have been assigned a lot to park in and have been given a sticker to display on their windshield. Those parking illegally will receive a ticket for a first offense and would be towed for a repeat.
- Concerned about a potentially huge crowd at the IHS/Skyline football game next Friday, it is suggested that tickets be purchased in advance and that parents pick up students promptly after the game. As of now, both teams are undefeated. Extra bleachers will be brought in with fire department and police officers in attendance. There will be no dance afterward. The game will be televised the next day.

Proposed Principal Meeting Topics: The following were suggested and will be sent to Ms. Phelps:

1. Meeting with counselors regarding senior issues
2. Issues relating to School construction
3. Meeting with counselors regarding course offerings
4. Substance abuse

Legislation: Marianne Kersten gave a legislative update:

- A Basic Education Task Force presentation will be held October 23, 6:30-8 pm at the ISD Board Rms.
- Studies are being done in anticipation of reforming the entire K-12 funding system.
- It has been proposed that levy lids be set at 30% statewide, which would help our district.
- Methods of improving "quality teaching" are being evaluated with the potential for instituting a mandatory mentorship phase. Training may be modeled after the National Board Certification process.
- Legislative Assembly was last weekend. Four of the five top issues were also in our district's zoomerang survey-voted top five. The top five issues presented at Legislative Assembly were:
 1. Basic Ed Funding
 2. Math/Science
 3. Improvements to the Washington State assessment system
 4. Support of State Board of Education "Core 24" graduation framework
 5. Support rational approaches to teacher compensation
- Marianne stated that this is a pivotal year in Legislation regarding school funding and stressed the importance of parents contacting their legislators. She will be sending information to members and asks that parents send messages to legislators personalized with their own experiences.
- Legislative Roundtable is Nov. 20, 7-9 pm, Newcastle Elementary.

More information on legislation can be found on the Council PTA web site (www.issaquahptsa.org/legislation/) and via e-news.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 pm

Prepared by Lori VanDeMark
Secretary, IH PTSA 2.6.45