

# Issaquah High PTSA

*"Soaring to New Heights"*

April 2011 e-News

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### **Upcoming Meeting Date**

Our next **PTSA meeting** will be held **Friday, April 15**, at Issaquah High. Meetings are a great opportunity to get to know other parents and to hear directly from our principal, Paula Phelps, about what's happening at school. At this meeting, we will elect PTSA officers for 2011-2012 (see the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers below.)

Come at *9:00 am* for a half hour of socializing; the meeting will begin promptly at *9:30 am*. We meet in the Conference Room in the Issaquah High office. We hope to see you there! Parking is limited, so we encourage you to carpool and bring lots of friends. If all visitor spots are filled, you may park in an empty staff spot for the meeting.

We are already beginning the process of filling Board positions for next year. If you are interested in serving on the IH PTSA board, please contact [Karin Allen or Lisa Gaan, Co-Presidents.](#)

### **Membership Update**

Issaquah High PTSA membership is currently at 1,088. Issaquah schools have the most involved parents in the State – District parents make up 10 percent of the State's PTSA members, while the District represents only 1 percent of the students. Strong parent support helps the PTSA have more weight in Olympia. With the current budget crisis, we need every member. It's not too late to join; you can sign up [online!](#)

If you have any membership questions, please contact [Karen Knitter.](#)

### **Fundraising**

THANK YOU to all who have stepped up to help IH PTSA fund so many wonderful experiences for our students! Unfortunately, we are running a

little short of our fundraising goal for this year.

We have received many compelling grant applications from Issaquah High teachers, and it is so hard to turn down simple requests: books, for instance! If a course is not considered core curriculum, there is a fair chance that there are no funds for books for that course. Marine Biology, for instance, serves 90+ students, but the tight District budget simply cannot stretch to provide books for those students.

If you have the financial ability, please consider another donation to the [IH Pass the Hat fund](#). Pass the Hat is the primary fundraiser for PTSA each year, and Pass the Hat donations fund our grant capabilities. Thank you!

## Legislation

### Budget Update

The latest supplemental budget cut another \$450,000 from the current ISD budget. To date the legislature has cut \$1.45 million from our district this year and further cuts are still pending. The legislature still has to close the current deficit for this biennium before they even start the budget for the next biennium.

### Legislative Update

The legislature is halfway through the session and at this point nothing is a done deal. Below is a listing of several key bills that pertain to Education but what will make it out is still very negotiable and there will be plenty of conflict between the House and Senate as they revise the bills.

#### 1) Continuing Education Reforms HB 1443

The bill would continue the implementation of the original reform bill 2009's (2261) and reforms from 2010's (2776 & 6696). It is based on the work of the Quality Education Council that is tasked with overseeing the reforms and following the timelines from the original bills. The original bill set a deadline of 2018 for full implementation. Currently there is an alternate bill in the Senate that would remove the deadlines.

*Key components:* Common Core Standards, Definition of HS Credit, Teacher & Principal Evaluations, Compensation Working Group

#### 2) WA Kids HB 1510/SB 5427

A pilot program that unites parents with preschool and kindergarten

teachers prior to the start of school to facilitate the transition into Kindergarten. Provides an assessment (Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills) that would assist in identifying students that need additional support. Only for districts that receive State funded all day Kindergarten.

3) Innovation Schools HB 1521/HB 1546

Creation of innovation schools and innovation zones within a district - would allow principals greater flexibility in use of funds and allows much more flexibility in staffing. OSPI would set the criteria for best practices and creativity.

4) Math Graduation Requirements HB 1412

Students in the classes of 2013 and 2014 would need to pass one math end-of-course test to graduate rather than two (Algebra I & Geometry). This is proposed to ease the transition to the end of course assessments in lieu of the math HSPE. Similar bills pending regarding science proficiency requirements.

5) Preservation of Levy Base HB 1815/SB5652 & HB 1814/SB5651

Preserves the school district's levy base and protects the ability to collect voter approved funds. Preserves district's levy base by including in the levy base an amount equal to the education jobs fund allocation.

6) Pay for Actual Student Success (PASS) HB 1599

This bill would incentivize school buildings to reduce their dropout rate with direct payments of funds for the principal to use in the building if goals are achieved.

## **Nominating Committee Report**

**The 2011 Issaquah High PTSA Nominating Committee places the following names in nomination:**

For Office of Co-President: Karin Allen

For Office of Co-President: Lisa Gaan

For Office of President-Elect: Anne Moore

For Office of Secretary: Patty Flynn

For Office of Treasurer: Laura Freeman

For Office of VP Membership: Anne Watanabe

For Office of Co-VP Fundraising: Dianne Bugge'

For Office of Co-VP Fundraising: Camille Vaska

For Office of Co-VP Volunteers: Pat Batt  
For Office of Co-VP Volunteers: Liz Rudolph

## News for Seniors

**SENIORS** - There is still time to sign up for the [Senior Graduation All-Night Celebration](#). The event will take place Friday, June 10, from 10:00 pm - 6:00 am and includes transportation to two secret venues, entertainment, food and fun! This is an opportunity to celebrate with your classmates one last time! The price of the event is \$160. If you cannot afford the price of the ticket, scholarships are available.

Shortly following Spring Break all registered students will have the opportunity to select which bus they wish to be assigned to. This will allow you to ride with your friends. You must be registered, paid in full, and have your release form in to secure your bus assignment.

To sign up for the event or if you have questions please email [IH PTSA Senior Events Liaison, Ana Stern](#).

**Senior Parents:** Group pictures of seniors are needed for the [Senior Graduation slide show](#)! Please send your pictures to senior class president Maxine Stern at [issyseniors11@gmail.com](mailto:issyseniors11@gmail.com)

## IH PTSA Scholarship for Seniors

The Issaquah High School PTSA encourages students to continue their education after graduation and will award a scholarship of \$500 each to six graduating seniors.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this scholarship is to support students who have demonstrated noteworthy achievements while attending Issaquah High School.

### **Eligibility**

Any student currently enrolled and in good standing at IHS who is committed to furthering their education and who will attend a recognized vocational training institute, community college, college, or university during the school year immediately following high school graduation will be

considered.

### **Criteria**

The PTSA Scholarship Committee will assess the following when evaluating applications:

Academic achievement, participation in school and community activities, outstanding service, leadership, financial need, unique responsibilities or individual pursuits.

### **Application Requirements**

- Written introduction of yourself
- Provide a current copy of your transcript
- Written description of financial need
- Written description of your educational goals and objectives

### **Deadlines and Important Dates**

Applications must be postmarked on or before **May 2, 2011 and received no later than May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 for consideration.**

Each applicant will receive an email confirmation from the committee chair when the application has been received. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 3 days of mailing your application, please email [senior\\_scholarships@issaquahhighptsa.org](mailto:senior_scholarships@issaquahhighptsa.org).

Applications and attachments must be mailed on or before May 2, 2011 to:

IH PTSA Scholarship Committee  
c/o Cynthia Baumert  
4615 230<sup>th</sup> Terrace SE  
Sammamish, WA 98075

For more information and the application, go to our [Senior Scholarships webpage](#)

Questions? – [Contact Cyn Baumert](#)

**Scholarship recipients will be notified the week of May 23, 2011.**

### **Awards**

#### **We'd like your input....**

The [Outstanding Educator Award](#) was created by PTSAs to recognize individuals who have provided outstanding educational opportunities for

children and youth that are beyond the normal scope of their jobs. An educator can be but is not limited to being a teacher, and can include specialists, support staff, administrators or community members. Nominations will be taken throughout the month of April. Please send forms, found on the [IH PTSA web site](#), to [Lisa Westover](#), Awards co-chair.

## **Staff Appreciation**

### **IHS Staff Appreciation**

Please help us honor our teachers and support staff this year during Staff Appreciation Week, May 2nd – 6th. Help is needed with the Staff Breakfast on Wednesday, May 4th (food and volunteers to set up, serve and clean up) and Lunch on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> (food and volunteers). We'll send out a list with specific food items and volunteer times later. Thank you for helping us make these events special for the entire staff. For more information or to help, [contact Sally Brunette](#).

## **Parent Ed**

**Pine Lake PTSA presents....**

### **“Cybersaavy and Safety for Parents of Teens”**

Presenter - Andrew Phillips  
Thursday, April 21, 2011  
7 pm  
PLMS Commons

**Youth Suicide Prevention Program presents....**

### **“Coping with Adolescent Stress and Depression: a Conversation for Parents”**

Facilitator – Sue Eastgard, MSW, YSPP Executive Director  
Thursday, May 19, 2011

7:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Cascade Ridge Elementary Coyote Café

**For further information about Parent Ed seminars, please visit the Issaquah PTSA Council Web site's [Parent Ed page](#).**

**The Issaquah Special Needs Group presents....**

## **Summer Recreational Resource Fair**

Tuesday, April 12, 7:00-8:30 pm  
Issaquah Middle School, Multi-Purpose Room

Summer break is almost here! Now is the time to sign up for summer camps, classes and sports before making your family's summer vacation plans.

Not sure what to do? Come gather ideas for summer that will be inspiring, stimulating, and loads of fun for your child. Imagine collecting all this information in just one night, enabling you to make your summer plans! Representatives from local organizations will present programs available to special needs kiddos and will provide you the opportunity to gather brochures and have questions answered.

Such time savings for you! We are sure you will walk away with new ideas to help your child enjoy their time off school.

Please invite your peers to join us. There is no fee or membership requirement -- all are welcome!

Questions? Contact [Roseann Popa](#)

## **Issaquah Schools Foundation**

***Nourish Every Mind Update:*** 96 moms, dads, community and business leaders have committed to being Table Captains for the Foundation's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual ***Nourish Every Mind*** Luncheon on Thursday, April 28. Check with our PTSA/ISF rep, [Debbie Rossman](#) to find out who from our school is attending, then make plans to join the party.

**NEM part 2:** Please join us in thanking our ***Nourish Every Mind*** sponsors whose generous funding makes it possible for the Foundation to apply every guest donation to student-centered programming. Bravo especially to Swedish Medical Center and Microsoft who are again serving as joint Golden Apple Luncheon sponsors. [Click Here](#) for a complete list of ***Nourish Every Mind*** sponsors.

**A shout out from our Golden Apple Sponsor:** Swedish Medical Center is looking for children and young adults' artwork to showcase in its new Issaquah Campus. Submissions are due Monday, April 11 at 11:59 pm. For more information please contact [www.swedish.org/issaquahart](http://www.swedish.org/issaquahart).

### **Who are the winners at your school?**

Winners of Classroom Enrichment Grant awards were surprised with congratulatory banners on their buildings and in their classrooms on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. The Foundation awarded 12 grants totaling \$10,100 to teachers at schools across the District. A complete list of winners is at <http://www.isfdn.org/grants/#Classroom-Enrichment>.

### **Donor Dollars at Work -- Computer Class Collaboration**

Thanks to a creative partnership between Microsoft, the Issaquah Schools Foundation and the Issaquah School District, students at Issaquah High are enjoying AP Computer Science and Web Design classes taught by Microsoft techies. The classes have been so successful they will be expanded to Liberty and Skyline High Schools in the fall. For more information, go to [www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org/programs/index.htm](http://www.issaquahschoolsfoundation.org/programs/index.htm).

## **Your PTSA at Work**

Two grants were awarded at the March 11 IH PTSA Meeting, enriching the education of students at IHS:

*\$400 for two classroom sets of French Readers, and*

*\$2,400 for Marine Biology Textbooks*

The IH PTSA provided refreshments at the **"8th Grade Parent Night" on March 22**. PTSA representatives were on hand to answer any questions parents had about how to stay involved, and in the know, with high school-aged kids.

And thank you to Issaquah High PTSA members for helping coordinate and

provide snacks during the week of HSPE testing!

***Thanks so much to all of our wonderful committee chairs and volunteers!***

## **PTA Spotlight**

**National PTA Makes “Parents Guide to Student Success” based on common core state standards available online; WSPTA has information and training available for you and your members**

National PTA has unveiled a series of publications called the “Parents Guide to Student Success” based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in English Language Arts and Mathematics that are being implemented in forty states across the country. In Washington, the CCSS have been adopted on a provisional basis, with implementation to begin in the fall of 2011 unless the Legislature directs otherwise during the session. The National PTA guides provide a grade-by-grade explanation of what parents can expect their children to be learning once the CCSS are fully implemented. Copies of the guides are being mailed to local unit presidents by National PTA, but are available online now on the [National PTA website](#). Washington State PTA is scheduling additional free training opportunities on the Common Core State Standards. One will be in the Puget Sound area in early April. Be sure to watch the website for more information on both soon. Also, WSPTA has a cadre of trainers available to make a presentation to your local unit—to schedule, email Linda Hanson, chair of WSPTA’s Common Core State Standards Initiative at [lhanson@lhanson.com](mailto:lhanson@lhanson.com).

## **ASB Report**

***Student of the Month Winners for Most Creative:***

Freshmen: **Nathaniel Allen, Chelsey Hess and Megan Stapley**

Sophomores: **Connor Fawcett and Jewels Morrison**

Juniors: **Aaron Hohns Hale and Audrey DeLuca**

Seniors: **AJ Hoffman, Brendon Bluhm, Alex Van Valkenburgh and Ava Youseffi**

**ASB is planning an Inclusion Explosion Week in April!**

Name tag themes will be presented to the entire student body during each day of the week to share varying identities and to bring awareness of

differences.

### **Inclusion Week Schedule:**

#### Thursday, April 14th

Name Tag Theme: Name, grade, favorite color (following assembly)  
Stu Cabe Motivational Speaker

#### Friday, April 15th

Name Tag Theme: Three things that define you  
GSA Day of Silence

#### Monday, April 18th

Name Tag Theme: What do you want to be when you grow up?  
Event: World Cultures Quiz Bowl in the Commons

#### Tuesday, April 19th

Senate Meeting  
Theme: Cultural Identity  
Event: Passover - no event

#### Wednesday, April 20th

Theme: Favorite Childhood Memory  
Event: Dodge Ball Tournament for the American Heart Association at 5:00 pm in the Main Gym

#### Thursday, April 21st

Theme: Biggest Fear  
Event: Multi-Cultural Talent Show at 6:30 pm in the Commons

#### Friday, April 22nd

Theme: Other people see me as \_\_\_\_\_. But I am really \_\_\_\_\_.

Event: Blood Drive during the school day in the Auxiliary Gym  
Earth Day as well.

### **Upcoming PTSA Events**

**April 15, 2011** IH PTSA Meeting, IHS Main Office  
9:00 social; 9:30 meeting begins

**April 28, 2011** ISF *Nourish Every Mind* Luncheon  
Issaquah Community Center

*11:00 am - 1:00 pm*

**April 29 - May 3** Washington State PTA Convention  
DoubleTree Inn, SeaTac

