

Issaquah High PTSA

"Soaring to New Heights"

June 2011 e-News

In this issue...

[Upcoming Meeting Date](#)

[News for Seniors](#)

[SAT/ACT Preparedness](#)

[Reflections](#)

[Outstanding Educator Awards](#)

[IH PTSA Senior Scholarships Awarded](#)

[Issaquah Schools Foundation \(ISF\)](#)

[Your PTSA at Work](#)

[PTA Spotlight](#)

[ASB Report](#)

[Upcoming PTSA Events](#)

Upcoming Meeting Date

Our next PTSA meeting will be held Friday, June 3 at Issaquah High in the Conference Room. Come at 9:00 am for a half hour of socializing; meeting to begin promptly at 9:30 am, and hear Principal Paula Phelps speak about what's happening at school. Plan to stay for our traditional

Year-End Luncheon, starting immediately after the meeting at approximately 11:00. We hope to see you there!

Join the PTSA board for the next school year. There are still several positions open. For more details, please contact [Lisa Gaan](#).

News for Seniors

Senior Graduation Celebration: We still have a few spots left for the all-night event – Friday June 10, 9pm-6am. On-line registration is no longer available. Please contact Ana Stern at senior_events_liaison@issaquahhighptsa.org for the required registration forms. Tickets are \$160 for the event - scholarships are available. This is the last opportunity to celebrate with your class!

SAT/ACT Preparedness

SAT/ACT Preparation offered by the PTSA: As summer approaches, you may be thinking about the college admission tests (SAT and ACT) that your junior may be taking next year. Please be aware that the PTSA offers options to help your student prepare for these important exams.

A Mock (practice) SAT exam is offered in September, with another in February. A Mock (practice) ACT is offered at the end of January.

Additionally, the PTSA offers fall and winter classes, taught by Issaquah High School teachers, to prepare for the SAT.

Mock exams are a nice opportunity to take a practice exam and get score results without it counting. The test score will be between you and your student. *These Mock exams are not the same as the PSAT that will be offered in October at school.* The PSAT exam is administered by Collegeboard and is a helpful tool in preparation for the SAT and is also the National Merit Scholarship exam for juniors.

The SAT prep classes are offered twice next year, with both afternoon and evening classes to choose from.

Exact dates and Registration for the Mock exams and SAT Preparation classes will be available [online](#) beginning in August.

If you have any questions, please contact [Tina Weber or Margaret Chalfant](#).

Reflections

The 2011- 2012 PTA Reflections Program theme is "Diversity means..." This program gives students the opportunity to create and submit works of art in six areas: dance/choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography, and visual arts (includes art forms such as drawing, painting, print making and collage). *This summer is a great time to start to work on your own creation.* We encourage you to start early as students are very busy in the fall. With so many creative students at Issaquah High School, we hope to increase the participation in this wonderful art program! More information can be found on the [Washington State PTA](#) website.

Outstanding Educator Awards

IH PTSA Honors Outstanding Educators!

Congratulations to the five teachers selected to receive this year's Outstanding Educator Award. The quotes come directly from the nomination forms and do a great job to sum up why these particular teachers are extra special! It is quite an honor when you consider how amazing all of our teachers are here at IHS.

Jared Fernandez: "This year there were roughly 30 kids on the Robotics team and trust me—that is a lot of mayhem and is like herding cats... His wife has a "Robotics Widow" sweatshirt, and I know it's true!"

Todd Parsons: "Mr. Parson's sports medicine program is a real asset to IHS and we are very fortunate to have him. On top of this, he coaches Issaquah's consistently state-ranked girls' volleyball team to not only be great athletes, but good sports as well."

Jeremy Ritzer: "...my daughter was not very inspired by school. However, since taking Mr. Ritzer's class, she has come home excited to talk about world issues, and her grade has improved dramatically. When I asked her who would be an outstanding educator, she exclaimed, 'Mr Ritzer, of course!'"

Andrea Noon: "Bottom line, she does whatever it takes to make the students succeed and does it with compassion. She is a tough teacher and students come out of her class prepared to move on. In my mind, she is pro-

student.”

Tom Haff: “Mr. Haff not only loves teaching, but loves his students and cares about everything they do, whether it’s related to physics or not. Besides being an award-winning physics teacher, he attends all kinds of after school events, and has even been known to show students his mad tap dancing skills.”

IH PTSA Senior Scholarships Awarded

The IH PTSA is pleased to recognize six graduating seniors who exemplify school spirit, academic achievement and community service each with a \$500 scholarship.

Our 2011 recipients are:

Caitlyn Chaffin, Riley Foreman, Connor Higgins, Josiah Lim, Aidan McDonald, and Madeline Mull

Issaquah Schools Foundation

Quick VOICE Mentor Program Fact

During the 2010-2011 year, 180 community volunteers mentored 230 elementary through high school students. If you have an hour a week to change a child’s life, please contact Program Director Susie Gierke at <mailto:VOICE@issaquah.wednet.edu>.

Elementary Science Initiative Campaign Update

The Elementary Science Initiative Campaign is rapidly approaching its June 15 deadline and would welcome your support. As a middle and/or high school parent you may question how the campaign relates to you.

Consider...

The sooner the District completes the Elementary Science adoption, the sooner it can focus on the next adoption in the cycle. A delay in the ESI pushes stalls all other adoptions, including those focused on middle and high school curriculum.

Through ISF donations, elementary parents have supported Chemistry, Physics and Biology adoptions over the past three years. Let’s do the same for them.

Please take a minute to visit the ESI website, www.issaquahscience.org to

learn more, and then give. Everyone benefits!

Donor Dollars at Work

Issaquah High School students in the Foundation/Microsoft funded AP Computer Science class place 3rd place in the Puget Sound Computer Science Teachers Association April Programming Competition.

Hundreds of middle and high school students benefit from FREE help from classroom teachers each week at Foundation-funded After-School Homework Labs. The Labs are a priority funding request from our Middle School principals each year.

THANK YOU!

As the year winds to a close, the Foundation would like to thank the parents whose donations fuel our work. You are the Foundation. Thank you for helping to give our students access to programs and initiatives that enable them to achieve the promise of their academic potential.

Your PTSA at Work

Your PTSA has been busy!

Your PTSA Dollars at work this month:

Funded by IH PTSA, Eastside Fire and Rescue presented an educational classroom presentation to all 10th graders during their Biology classes called "Think Again" on May 26 and 27. This presentation is designed to reduce motor vehicle crashes through an interactive educational presentation. It addresses drinking and driving, lack of seatbelt use, alcohol poisoning, and reckless driving. Firefighters provide a real life display of emergency medical care at the scene and emergency rooms.

Two Special Funding Requests were granted at the May 6 IH PTSA meeting:

- \$750 toward the recent, impactful ASB assembly - ask your student if he/she is a big elephant or little elephant
- A new digital thermometer was purchased for the nurse's office

Staff Appreciation Week – Thank You from PTSA!

We would like to publicly thank all of the wonderful PTSA members who donated their precious time and culinary talent to help make Staff Appreciation Week a huge success this year! Without the help of each and every one of you, we could not have hosted such wonderful events to show

the IHS staff how much we appreciate them.

We would also like to thank and recognize all of the Issaquah community businesses and individuals who supported Staff Appreciation week this year with their generous donations to our Staff Breakfast Gift Raffle. They are:

Chipotle
Trader Joes
Panera
Red Robin
Pogacha
Fins Bistro
Flat Iron Grill
Boehms
Tutta Bella
Coho Café
12th Avenue Café
Cascade Garden
Issaquah Café
Mackys
Fred Meyer
Jamba Juice
Starbuck's (Meadow's Shopping Center)
IHS Booster Club
Asma Ahmed
Debbie Rossman
Debbie Sexton
Caryn Cissna
Vicki Hahn

Thanks so much to the following volunteer organizers and their volunteers:

- **Sally Brunette, Kim Dreiblatt and Lisa Sacia**, for last month's fabulous Staff Appreciation Week
- **Dianne Bugge and Caryn Cissna**, for the Healthy Student Support events; the Mock Crash for juniors and seniors and the "Think Again" program for sophomores in May
- **Wendy Logan** for organizing the much-appreciated donation of food items for classrooms with students in need
- **Cyn Baumert** for heading the recent awarding of IH PTSA Scholarships to seniors
- **Ana Stern, Amy Higgins, Karen Starcevich, Krista Ferguson, Katie Schiltz**, for teaming up to organize the upcoming special events for our seniors, the planning of which started much earlier in the school year

- **Kim Dreiblatt** and **Kim Undi** for organizing the donation and distribution of refreshments for yet another 5K fun run

And special thanks for the continuing dedication of the IH PTSA Executive Board of:

- **Vicki Hahn** and **Dianne Bugge** (fundraising)
- **Karen Knitter** (membership)
- **Pat Batt** (volunteers)
- **Debbie Sexton** (secretary)
- **Blair Baumer** (treasurer)
- and last, but certainly not least, **Karin Allen** and **Lisa Gaan** (co-presidents) for their inspired and tireless leadership!!

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

PTA Spotlight

NATIONAL PTA TAKES STEPS TO FOCUS ON THE 'T' IN PTA

National PTA has created a website dedicated to teachers and those entering the profession to access PTA membership information, resources and e-learning opportunities. In announcing the new **"Focusing on the 'T' in PTA" page**, NPTA Membership Committee Chair Derrick W. Byrd stated his hope that it "will further assist in developing and strengthening the parent-teacher partnership that will result in higher student achievement and PTA advocacy."

WASHINGTON STATE PTA SEEKS YOUR HELP

Although the school year is almost over, WSPTA's work continues and you can help. The many opportunities include:

- Encouraging more men to get involved in PTA;
- Evaluating different means of delivering training;
- Serving on a statewide committee, such as the scholarship committee;
- Exploring funding sources other than membership service fees; and many more.

If you're interested in any of these or other opportunities to strengthen WSPTA, please fill out the [Volunteer Interest Form](#) and mail it to the WSPTA Office, 2003 65th Ave. W, Tacoma WA 98466, or fax it to 253-565-7753.

ASB Report

ASB Class Council Elections have finally wrapped up. Here is a list of all Class Council Officers and Representatives.

Senior Class Council:

President: Stephanie Whitmer

Vice President: Josh Chinn

Secretary: Marisa Klomp

Treasurer: Shannon Heneghan

Representatives: Haley O'Rourke, Kim Bussing, Ally Nisbet, Julia Knitter and Kaileen Dougherty

Junior Class Council:

Presidents: Annika Dybevik & Tiffany Han

Vice President: Zach Hall

Secretary: Ashlie Humphries

Treasurer: Nellie Hoehl

Representatives: Lacey Westman, Megan Henry and Michael Wu

Sophomore Class Council:

President: Robbie Lustig

Vice President: Karah Weber

Secretary: Elim Song

Treasurer: Allie Maurer

Representatives: Lauren Poulson, Paige Montague, Priyanka Kompella, Amanda Levenson, Alissa Parker, and Katie Chun

Final activities include:

Powder Puff Football – May 24 at 4:00 pm

Senior Acoustic Night – May 25 at 6:30 pm

End of Year Assembly - June 7 at 11:05

Upcoming PTSA Events

June 3, 2011 IH PTSA Meeting IHS Main Office

9:00 am Coffee and Conversation

9:30 am Meeting Begins

11:00 am End of year Luncheon

August 24, 2011 PTSA Parent/Student Panel
