

IM PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes
City of Issaquah Council Chambers
February 13, 2007

Proper notice was given to all members - quorum present

Call to Order and Welcome: President Mila Hover called meeting to order at 9:40am.

Approval of Minutes: Karin Allen moved to accept the 12/12/06 minutes as written. Seconded, passed.

Council Report: Susan Hegedus announced that a special School Board public meeting will take place tonight, 7pm, at the District Administration Building to receive input regarding the 5th middle school/high school issue. The Administration recommends expanding Issaquah and Skyline High Schools (so that 9th graders may return) and repurposing PCFC to a middle school. To change the bond, the District must go through a process, of which this public meeting is a part. Tomorrow night the School Board will meet to make its decision. The following night, the School Board meets to discuss candidates for superintendent.

❖ Jan Woldseth has been elected president of the School Board for 2007.

❖ The Issaquah PTSA Council is advocating for parent input in the bargaining process between the IEA and the District. A values document with parental input and priorities was presented and well received. Neva Luke, President of the IEA, has suggested more, similar meetings in the future.

Legislation: Susan Hegedus reported that Council has passed a statement supporting the State PTA legislative goal of simple majority for both bonds and levies.

❖ Jane Lee explained, on behalf of Blair Baumer, that the single most important piece of legislation for Issaquah is the "Leveling of Salary Inequities" bill.

❖ Focus Day is February 15 in Olympia. Those interested in attending are encouraged to join Anne Moore and Kelly Munn today at 12:00 pm, KCLS Service Center, for a planning meeting.

Financial Report: Nancy Tochko has received the first Special Funding Request of the school year from school nurse Terry Ostendorf asking for the purchase of a second automatic external defibrillator. Currently one AED is located outside of the library. It was suggested that this be moved to a location where it would be more accessible both during and outside of regular school hours. More information is needed.

Golden Acorn/Outstanding Educator Awards: Margie Gerrity asked for additional GA/OE nominations, reminding that the deadline is February 16. Forms can be returned to a box in the office, sent by mail or e-mailed to Margie via the IM PTSA web site (issaquahmiddlepts.org). Students are not allowed to nominate teachers directly, although parents are encouraged to submit after speaking to their students about which teachers they like and why. A list of past recipients can be found on the web site. Recipients are chosen by committee using a point system.

Communications: Mila Hover thanked Jane Lee for her work in preparing the IM PTSA Bulletin Board.

ASB: Jane Lee reported, on behalf of April Green, that the Valentine sales have gone well, with 1300 cards with flowers sold.

❖ As she has received many questions from Walkabout parents, Dianne Bugge suggested that Mr. Dorsett provide more information regarding ASB on the school's web site, answering questions such as what ASB does, what they fund, and who can participate.

Spring Forum: Pam Ratcliffe announced that Susan McDonald, Susan Meyer, and Dianne Bugge will be co-chairing. Dianne noted that they had a planning meeting yesterday.

Nominating Committee: The committee is in need of two more members to work with Pam Ratcliffe. Nominating Committees are required to have at least three members. The goal is to present the slate of nominated officers in March with the vote taken in April.

Special Services: Sandra Lum has coordinated a seminar to take place at the IMS Library on April 5, 6-8:00 pm. The subject is Autism.

Parent Education: Karin Allen reminded that there is a comprehensive list of Parent Education Seminars listed on the Council web site (issaquahpts.org). Seminars highlighted: A two-subject talk on the new elementary math curriculum/teaching personal safety on February 28, 7-8:30 pm at Grand Ridge Elementary; an internet safety class for parents only, 7-9 pm on March 26 at Liberty High School; and a high school transition seminar on May 10, 7-9:00 pm at PCFC with Ken Wong.

Site Council: Karin Allen explained the Valentine card and flower issue further, noting that all students will receive a box of candy. Those who receive Valentines will get a note telling them they have something to pick up. All cards must be signed.

❖ Parents are encouraged to help students limit their backpack loads.

Beautification: Nancy Tochko noted the amount of litter around the campus and suggested that ASB organize a pick up or make posters encouraging school pride. Principal Corrine DeRosa explained that part of the litter problem is caused by squirrels and crows.

Special Funding Request (continued): Ms. DeRosa explained that the original AED was donated through the Mariner's Wives and Fire Department. The Fire Department maintains and has control of its placement in the core portion of the building. She will ask, but doubts that it is possible to move it.

Principal's Report: Ms. DeRosa reported on the grandfathered salaries legislative issue that has the potential of causing great impact to our District by raising salaries to the same level statewide. A complex funding issue, this raise to teachers' salaries would be welcome while causing difficulty in funding equitable raises to the approximately 50% of staff that are not covered by this State funding.

❖ Next week at school (formerly the 2nd winter break) will be quality-learning time and will make up four of the snow days. Students who are absent will receive a day for each day missed to make up assignments. The District is applying for a waiver for the State emergency wind day. If approved, the day does not need to be made up, but two early release Wednesdays will be full days to make up necessary hours. Depending on the outcome, the last day of school would be June 25 or 26.

❖ Ms. DeRosa thanked the PTSA for asking what can be done to help IMS if additional PTSA funds can be raised. At this time, she anticipates that the teachers will be excited to receive "active boards" following the eventual installation of LCD projectors and document cameras by the District. The seven science classrooms will receive these first. The type of fundraiser is as of yet undetermined.

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 am