

IM PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes
Issaquah Middle School Library
April 17, 2007

Proper notice was given to all members - 9 voting members in attendance (quorum not met)

Call to Order and Welcome: President Mila Hover called meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Jane Lee moved to accept the 3/20/07 minutes as written. Seconded.

President's Report: President Mila Hover explained that the Council meeting would be this Thursday.

❖ The 2007-2008 School calendar make-up day prioritization was reviewed: The last day of school is to be Jun. 18. The 1st make-up day would be Jun. 19, 2nd - Jun. 20, 3rd - Mar. 21, 4th - Jun. 23, 5th - Jun. 24, 6th - Feb. 22, 7th - Feb 21, 8th - Feb. 20, 9th - Feb. 19. This will allow staff to better plan for vacation time with these dates in mind.

❖ Due to lack of a quorum, the following votes will be taken at the next general membership meeting on May 22: Revision of Standing Rules; 2007-2008 Proposed Budget; and Election of Officers (Mila reminded the group that these names have been placed in nomination: President - Mila Hover, Executive VP - Susan Hegedus, Secretary - Debbie Sexton, Treasurer - Nancy Tochko, VP Hospitality - Joy McIlvaine, VP Communications - Asma Ahmed, VP Ways and Means - Cari Schutzler, VP Programs - Pam Ratcliffe, VP Volunteers - Lisa Gaan.)

Financial Report: Nancy Tochko reviewed the 2007-2008 Proposed Budget (see attached), noting these changes: newsletter printing and postage will be removed and funds were added for the IM PTSA Web Site.

❖ Discussion followed regarding funding for ISF, which in the past has been specifically targeted to SafeNet. Principal Corrine DeRosa explained that SafeNet is being replaced with a program called "Club 7" that looks to be more effective. This program will help students who have chronic failing grades and who do not otherwise receive services such as an IEP or have support at home. Approximately 10 students per grade would devise and sign a contract with the help of staff, counselors, and parents, making a commitment and developing goals. Students would receive teacher help with homework four days/wk after school as well as have a snack and play games. This program has been successful at Beaver Lake Middle School in helping students improve grades and feel connected. Ms. DeRosa will provide specifics of funding so that IM PTSA can decide whether to donate funds to ISF or to IMS directly for this program.

Site Council: Karin Allen announced that 8th Grade Promotion will be June 21 at 3:00 pm, Cruise to follow that same evening. June 22 will be early release. Last day of school is June 25.

❖ Michelle Moore will be ASB Advisor next year.

❖ IMS Site Council will need a new chairperson next year. Those interested are asked to contact Corrine DeRosa or Teresa Ducharme.

Parent Education: Karin Allen described two upcoming seminars: "Moving On Up to High School" featuring Ken Wong, May 10, 7:00 pm at PCFC and "Unplugging Power Struggles: Resolving Emotional Battles with Teens" with Jan Faull, May 2, 7:00 pm, Beaver Lake Middle School.

Spring Forum: Karin Allen explained that the committee is hoping to use experienced PTSA members as hostesses. She also encouraged signing up as validators. A sign-up sheet was passed. Sign up can also be done via the web site.

❖ Karin and Susan Meyer asked that the link to Spring Forum on the school web site be made more prominent. Ms. DeRosa suggested that Sandie Pike help with this.

❖ Lisa Gaan offered to forward a Spring Forum Volunteers solicitation e-mail to the large list of short-notice volunteers that she has in place. Susan Meyer will send this request to Lisa making sure to include a link to the Spring Forum web site.

Staff Appreciation Week: Mary Okada reported that additional help is needed for the Monday Mexican theme and the Wednesday Breakfast.

Principal's Report: Ms. DeRosa noted that the first day of WASL went smoothly.

❖ She explained that they are currently working on the Continuous Improvement Plan. For the past three years, the focus has been on raising reading comprehension and fluency, working to narrow the gap between special ed students and the general student population. Moves may be made to focus in future on low-income students, as this gap is even wider. The reading focus benefits all students. Low-income students are determined by the Free and Reduced Lunch Program. This percentage in our school population has been growing, with 10-11% in the category this year.

Special Funding Requests: Mila reported that Ms. DeRosa has presented the PTSA with a grant request of \$3,775.36 to purchase white boards for the 2 science classrooms that will not be receiving them this summer as a benefit of Tech. (ITP) training. (One teacher is on the waiting list and another already took the program at a time when the boards were not given out). This will allow the entire science team to be equally well equipped. The PTSA may consider funding this request out of this year's Special Funding Requests. Ms. DeRosa will also write a grant request outlining plans to gradually add white boards to other classrooms using funds raised from an as-yet undetermined future fundraiser. This will be discussed further, with a vote on the initial funding request, at the next general membership meeting on May 22. A special committee will need to be formed to raise these funds.

Outstanding Educators: Karin Allen announced that this year's OE recipients are Corrine DeRosa, John Mejlaender, and Mark Dorsett.

Special Services: Mary Okada reported on behalf of Sandra Lum that the seminar on autism went well.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm