

Issaquah Middle PTSA 2.6.35
General Membership Meeting
February 24, 2009
Issaquah Fire Station Conference
Minutes

Issaquah Middle PTSA Mission Statement

To encourage and support parent involvement, input and participation in student academic learning and activities.

To work cooperatively with teachers and staff to provide a safe environment where respect and high expectations for achievement are reached.

To encourage students to be responsible, knowledgeable, caring and productive citizens.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Susan Hegedus at 9:41am. Proper notice was given and a quorum was present. A sign in sheet is attached to the original copy of the minutes. Susan introduced Colleen Volk, Issaquah PTSA Council V.P. of Middle Schools.

Secretary's Report: Anne Moore moved to approve the January minutes as submitted. Alison Meryweather seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Financial Report: Kim Dreiblatt reported that there is a minor modification to the January 2009 financial report. Total Cash Balance should be \$37,037.51. A revised copy of the January Financial Report will be emailed to Board members. Major expenses in January include \$2000.00 to ISF for Club 7, \$500.00 to the P.E. Department for Sqwim fins, \$7502.15 for ACTIVboards, and \$210.00 for Salmon Day parking to the City of Issaquah. The December and January bank statements were reviewed by Dianne Bugge. It is time to form the budget committee to create next year's budget. Susan Hegedus, Camille Vaska and Alison Meryweather volunteered. The committee will meet starting early next month. V.P.'s should send an email to committee chairs to get input regarding the 2009-2010 budget for their committee.

Council Report: Alison Meryweather reported that the construction timeline update for projects in the District is on the District website. The report doesn't show the IMS parking lot phase two information. Corrine DeRosa will verify that phase 2 is still on track. A bond and levy scoping committee is going to form. Each school in the District will choose a representative via their Site Council. The School Board is currently considering proposing only a levy for 2010 and waiting until 2012 to propose a bond. The School Board will decide at the next meeting whether or not to accept the charter to run a levy only. Public input will be taken.

VIS (Volunteers for Issaquah Schools) would like each PTSA in the District to contribute \$1000.00 for the campaign next year. VIS is inviting community representatives and PTSA representatives to a March 5th brainstorming meeting to determine strategy.

Middle School Experience is almost complete. Optimal High School Experience has focus groups of parents and students. Observers are welcome to the next meeting on February 26th at 6:30pm.

Issaquah School District will need to make significant cuts when it gets information from the State regarding budget cuts. The PTSA can look at how it might be able to help IMS defray budget cuts. The Issaquah School Board endorsed HB1410 and SB5444. Issaquah City Council endorsed the bills as well. These bills are dead, but a new bill has been introduced to address school funding.

Nominating Committee: Sally Brunette reported that the Nominating Committee has found candidates for the V.P. slots and is working on finding a volunteer or volunteers to fill the President position. Let Sally know if you would like to be President or know of a good candidate to fill the position.

President's Report: Region 2 PTA is holding a spring conference. Each Board member received an attachment via email detailing the seminars offered. Let Susan know if you would like to go. If IM PTSA can register before March 9th there will be a discount. The 41st legislative district legislators (Judy Clibborn, Fred Jarrett, and Marcie Maxwell) are holding a town hall meeting Saturday, March 14th at 9:30am at Hazelwood Elementary and 1:30pm at Enetai Elementary. Expanding Horizons is holding a conference Saturday, March 21st at BCC for girls. The seminars will discuss different professions that focus on math and science. Susan passed around the National PTA magazine and the League of Education Voters Citizens Report Card on Washington State education. Washington State PTA is looking for people to serve on the State Nominating Committee. 2009 is the 112th anniversary of the founding of PTA. Beaver Lake is doing program called DATA to promote drug, alcohol, and tobacco addiction awareness. March 9th is the rescheduled presentation of "What Teens are Really Doing Today" at HIS at 7:00pm.

Principal's Report: The "Rachel's Challenge" assembly was held. Kids who wanted to were able to add their signatures to the sign that hangs in the entrance. An Olympic weight lifter was the presenter. The assembly addressed bullying, treating each other well, and caring for siblings. Registration for next year is March 5th for 8th graders. 7th graders register March 27th. 6th graders register March 26th. 5th graders come to visit IMS on March 19th and Parent Night is March 24th at 6:30. Forms are due April 1st. IMS will be continuing with the same electives. There may be changes due to possible staffing changes due to budget constraints. March 18th is a WASL Wednesday. There will be an early release instead of late start. There will be an "All School Write" March 13th, which is a half day. A levy development committee will be formed after the School Board meeting. A form will be put on the IMS school website for people to volunteer to be a school representative. Rehearsals have begun for next play. Heather Carlyle is the director and the play is "Alice in Wonderland".

Unfinished Business: The funds request to purchase ACTIVboards and ACTIVexpressions that was introduced in December was tabled at that time. In January,

IM PTSA identified a volunteer to run a fund raiser to raise money to fund the Funds Request and voted to allocate a budget of \$650.00 for the committee. Subsequently, IMS has determined a fund raiser will not be needed. Anne Moore moved to bring the Funding Request for ACTIVboards and ACTIVexpressions back to the table. Dianne Bugge seconded the motion. The motion passed. Anne Moore moved to deny the funding request for ACTIVboards and ACTIVexpressions. Carmen Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

New Business: Kim Dreiblatt moved to disband the 2009 Technology Fundraising Committee and rescind the funding for the committee, \$650 dollars. Camille Vaska seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Legislation: Alison reported that HB1410 and SB5444 did not make it out of committee. There is a new bill, SB6048, which was created to become a compromise bill to address education funding. The details of these bills have not been created. WEA (Washington Education Association) does not support the new bill. Continue to email legislators to express supporter. Attend town hall meetings and let legislators know that you support education funding. A group of education funding groups and the PTA have agreed to work together at the State level to lobby legislators to improve education funding and address education issues.

Site Council: Debbie Sexton reported that the Middle School sports philosophy discussion is now elevated to the District level. The discussion is considering if there is a sports philosophy **and how to involve more kids**. Site Council is also following up on Honor Roll at IMS, which includes 450 kids. Site Council will determine if there is a way to recognize those kids and keep in mind internet security. IMS wants to acknowledge these kids' accomplishments. The results from the "All School Math" event in January were: sixth graders scored 6.8 out of 14, seventh graders scored 8.3 and eighth graders scored 8.5. The math team is evaluating the results.

Committee Reports: Carmen Thomas reported that ASB will host a school social Friday after school. ASB still needs a couple of chaperones. Tickets are on sale now and at the door. WEB leaders are roaming around at lunch on Friday to talk to their 6th graders Friday is neon day. March madness is the 17th, 18th, and 19th. ASB is working on the details.

Parent Ed.: "What Teens and Preteens are Doing Today" is March 9th at Issaquah High School in the New Commons, volunteers will be at the front of IHS to direct parents. "Understanding the Law: 504's and IEP's" will be May 4th at IMS in the library. This seminar is designed for parents who are wondering if their child could receive some additional academic support and for parents whose children currently have a 504 Plan or and IEP (Individual Education Plan) and would like more information about the process and the paperwork. For all Parent Ed. seminars, go to www.issaquah.wednet.edu and click on Parent Education.

Membership: Susan Hegedus has been sending emails to all PTSA members. Pam Nordquist input the email addresses so Susan can email the membership. Thanks to Pam for her work.

ISF: Anne Moore reported that Calling for Kids raised \$70,000 which will be used for GLAD training for 100 teachers. For more information about GLAD training, go to www.issaquahmiddlepts.org.

Walkabout: There has been a policy change; no use (by students) of the bathrooms outside of the courtyard during lunch, students need to use the bathrooms by the front door. The committee will send a message to walkabout parents, students have been informed. Dianne introduced Karla Greer, who is doing Walkabout scheduling.

Golden Acorn and Outstanding Educator: Camille Vaska reported nominations have been made for Golden Acorn and Outstanding Educator. Camille will announce the recipients on March 17th. March 24th is the District Reception.

Reflections: Pam Keller reported that the State reception is May 3rd. There are three finalists from IMS that will be going to the State level competition.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:39am.