

Issaquah Middle PTSA 2.6.35
General Membership Meeting
March 17, 2009
Issaquah Police Station Eagle Room
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 9:38 am. Proper notice was given and a quorum was present. A sign in sheet is attached to the original copy of these minutes. Susan passed around a thank you note from Susan Kelly, a new teacher at IMS, for the ACTIVboard that she received.

Secretary's Report: Sally Brunette moved to approve the February minutes as amended. Dianne Bugge seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Financial Report: Kim Dreiblatt reported that there was a \$7.00 change to the February Financial Report. The February bank statement was reviewed by Dianne Bugge. Reflections, one Teacher Grant, and Most Valuable People were paid. Kim would like input from Committee Chairs regarding budget amounts for next year's committees. Susan Hegedus, Camille Vaska, Kim Dreiblatt and Alison Meryweather are on the Budget Committee. Susan mentioned that due to State budget cuts, PTSA Council is recommending that PTSA's be conservative with their budgets to anticipate possible additional needs from the schools they support. There was discussion.

Principal's Report: Corrine DeRosa reported that additional ACTIVboards arrived and were installed. IMS conducted the "All School Write". During this Friday's LID day the whole staff will be scoring the test. By involving the entire staff, all teachers will learn what to look for in judging student writing. In addition to this exercise, the teachers are receiving training to improve their writing skills. Corrine wants the kids to work hard on the WASL this year because the test will still be used as a tool and a measurement for IMS. GLAD training took place, four or five teachers attended. 10-15 teachers have been trained and three additional teachers have signed up for summer training. The Stanford test scores came in and were very close to last year. The 5th graders are coming to visit IMS on March 19th and 5th grade parents are coming on March 24th. March Madness is going on, which is an ASB sponsored spirit week. The kids are participating in daily events.

Golden Acorn: Camille Vaska announced Alison Meryweather, Dianne Bugge announced Blair Baumer, and Patty Flynn announced Sandra Lum as this year's Golden Acorn recipients. Outstanding Educator will be announced next month.

President's and Council Report: Ramona Lawrence, Alison Meryweather and Kimberly Montague were Golden Acorn recipients at the Council level. Susan Evans and Robin Callahan received the Outstanding Service Award. Susan Hegedus sent an email to PTSA members regarding a survey on the District website to gather public input about the school year calendar. Robin Earl is the new Planning Principal. Sue McPeak will move to Challenger, Diane Holt will be the new IVE Principal. A contractor for the Issaquah High School remodel is in place, construction will begin soon. There are new traffic cameras in place on 2nd Avenue to catch speeders.

A Levy Development Committee is being formed. Applications can be found in the IMS office or online at the District website. The District is looking at the high school Physics and Chemistry curricula to update them. There are new Elementary report cards.

PTSA provides Echo Glen (about 40 kids) birthday cakes, art docents, and humanitarian outreach with Smile Power. In August there is a weeklong golf clinic. Cougar Ridge provides a staff appreciation luncheon annually. Echo Glen is looking for another humanitarian project. If members have project ideas, email Susan.

In addition to the IMS Staff Luncheon this year, parents are encouraged to send notes of appreciation to teachers and staff.

The next school Levy will be on the ballot February, 2010. IM PTSA will need a VIS (Volunteers for Issaquah Schools) representative next year. Reflections had 17,000 entries statewide. 24 entries made it to the national level. Three students from the Issaquah School District are competing at the National level. Seven others received honorable mention. Art exhibit for middle and high students will be at the UP Front Gallery in Issaquah from May 1-May 31. Downtown Issaquah Art Walks are the first Friday of every month from May to September. State PTA convention is May 1-3, 2009. The new addition of *Child Advocate* is available online at the State PTA website. Friends of Youth is having a luncheon Thursday, March 19th. The speaker will be Dave Pelzer. Susan passed out YMCA summer program information. Expanding Your Horizons workshops will be held at BCC. This Wednesday is a 7:37am start, the kids will be out at 12:01pm. Friday there is no school. Friday is the Panther Press deadline.

Next month's PTSA meeting is at 7:00pm in the library at IMS. The PTSA will be electing next year's officers. PTSA Council is conducting training for new Presidents, Secretaries and Treasurers on May 21st at Our Savior Lutheran Church on Front Street. Presidents training will be offered from 9am-11am, 1pm-3pm, or 7pm-9pm. Treasurers and Secretaries training will be offered from 10am-11am and 7pm-8pm. Parent Ed. Legislation, Membership, ISF, and Awards training will be on June 4th, contact Susan for the times of these trainings.

Nominating Committee: Sandi Lum reported that the Nominating Committee is still trying to fill the President position. The slate needs to be posted 15 days before the April 21st meeting.

Legislation: Alison Meryweather reported that there is a petition to fund education. She passed the petition. All citizens, including students, can sign the petition in person or online at <http://gopetition.com/online/25946.html>. There have been 2000 signers so far, the organizers would like to get 10,000 signatures. Anne Moore reported that SB 6048 and HB 2261 passed out of Committee. Anne passed around information detailing the House Bill. Anne went to the Town Hall meeting for the 41st District. Legislators Fred Jarrett and Marcie Maxwell said they are working on a creating a fair levy system. The Legislators were impressed by parents who went to Olympia last Friday to lobby for the House Bill 2261. Emails to legislators are helpful, legislators pay attention to the amount of emails they receive on each issue. Focus Day went well. A rally was held with speakers. 300-400 people attended. Legislators came out to hear speakers and were announced as they joined the rally.

Committee Reports: Carmen Thomas reported that the ASB's second social was great. There will be a WEB activity on March 31st, a scavenger hunt after school. The 6th graders have been working on a fashion show to show appropriate attire for school.

Parent Ed.: "What Teens are Really Doing" is rescheduled for April 22nd at IHS. The March 9th seminar was cancelled due to snow.

Special Ed.: There will be a Special Ed. Parent Ed. seminar on I.E.P.s (Individual Education Plans) and 504's (Special Accommodations) May 4th from 7-9pm at the IMS library. Information about the seminar is available on the District website, click on Parent Ed.

Membership: Pam Nordquist reported one additional member joined IM PTSA.

Panther Passage: Panther Passage will be held May 18th through June 5th. The committee is looking for validators and hostesses. Ideally, hostesses will be PTSA volunteers. The website is up and running. It is available on the PTSA website, go to "links". The website will be connected to the IMS website as well. Sign up is online and volunteers will be reminded of their time slot via email. If possible, hostess volunteers should sign up for an entire day. That eliminates transition and retraining during the day. Volunteers from all parts of the community work as validators.

5th Grade Open House: April Green is working on Open House.

Beverages for Student Testing: Jackie Carr is heading up this committee. She got pricing from Costco Business and Costco Retail. To save money, Costco Retail was chosen. Kim Dreiblatt will pick up and deliver the drinks (juice). Drinks will be delivered to school before Spring Break. Additional volunteers to help pick up drinks and deliver them to school will be appreciated.

Reflections: Pam Keller reported that the State reception is May 3rd.

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