

Issaquah Middle PTSA 2.6.35
General Membership Meeting
November 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 Co-President Camille Vaska at 9:37 am. Proper notice was given and a quorum was present. A sign in sheet is attached to the original copy of the minutes. Introductions were made.

Secretary's Report: Dianne Bugge moved that the minutes of the October 20, 2009 meeting be accepted as amended. Alison Meryweather seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Financial Report: Kim Dreibratt presented the financial report. Kim filed the 990EZ tax form. Debbie Sexton reviewed the bank statement. Salmon Days brought in \$4460.00. Kim paid a State PTA fee of \$4767.00, the Funding Requests that were previously approved by the PTSA, and insurance. Kim disclosed that she reported Standing Committee Board Members' aggregated donations to the **IRS** as required.

President's Report: Camille Vaska referred members to information placed on the counter. Camille reported on the status of this year's goals:

Increase membership: IM PTSA membership is currently 684; the goal is 749 members, 78% of families. Camille and Sally Brunette will put an item in the newsletter to advise families that PTSA membership entitles them to a copy of the school directory.

Develop a stronger parent community: Sandi Lum and Camille met with the Issaquah High School Spanish Club to translate IMS school information into Spanish. Camille will work to get the newcomers information sheet she developed on the website. Family Fun night ideas have been created. Corrine DeRosa would like to see the event take place in October. The ASB advisor would like her students to be involved. PTSA is looking for a chair person. Members will search for suggestions.

Provide resources to help pass the Issaquah School District levies: Information on the levies has been added to the PTSA website.

Support school efforts to improve academic performance, particularly of our lower income population: Kristen Allen Bentsen brought the Angel Program to the attention of Camille and Sally. Families who would like to volunteer would anonymously be paired with families in need. Sally and Camille shared the idea with Corrine DeRosa who will see if the IMS counselors and nurse are interested. There was discussion regarding providing sports physicals for low income families. Blair Baumer will follow up on clarification of when an actual sports physical is required.

Camille stated that the IM PTSA website (www.issaquahmiddlepts.org) has been updated and members should go see the new look. Matthews Thriftway has discontinued the corporate rebate program that benefited IMS. Camille and Sally reported that the eScrip program is available to IMS and Corrine DeRosa has agreed to let PTSA manage the program and receive the rebates.

Principal's Report: Camille Vaska reported for Corrine DeRosa. All middle school ASB officers met and shared ideas as part of The Middle School Experience Project. Soccer is replacing gymnastics as a winter sport for girls. The team formation is considered a pilot with Varsity and Junior Varsity teams for 7th and 8th graders and a C team will be available for all grades. The math survey results will be on the District website soon.

New Business: Sally Brunette introduced a funding request from the Drama and Music programs to replace the theater lighting board in the Commons. The request is for \$2200. Anne Moore moved to approve the funding request, Alison Meryweather seconded the motion. There was discussion. The motion was passed.

Legislation: Alison Meryweather reported that Initiative 1033 failed, the PTSA had endorsed a “no” vote. The Legislature may approve additional cuts to education in the next session. The Quality Education Committee is delayed in their work. The Federal Way School District’s state education funding lawsuit was decided by the State Supreme Court. The Court upheld Washington State’s position on funding. The PTSA Focus Day rally will be January 18th. There will be activities and children are welcome. The flier will be on the bulletin board and on the IM PTSA website.

Site Council: Debbie Sexton reported that Site Council met on October 26th. There is currently no parent representative from the Clark attendance area as the Clark parent resigned. Site Council discussed District policy on makeup work. The current policy may encourage kids to come to school sick. The flexibility of the policy was discussed. If a student cannot make up missed work in one day, the student should talk to their teacher. The 8th grade team doesn’t give credit for late work. Students are encouraged to turn in late work, however.

Committee Reports: Jackie Carr reported that the directory is ready to be mailed. The committee needs volunteers to help sort the directories by zip code for the Post Office. Susan McDonald reported that there was a Council Parent Ed. meeting. She talked to the counselors at IMS and was given some information regarding possible Parent Ed. seminars. “When to worry” was a topic idea suggested. Susan is looking for a speaker. PTSA Council may offer a seminar on internet safety. Sandi Lum reported that the Reflections reception was last Friday at IMS for the finalists. January 6th will be the District reception. Logowear will be distributed Thursday and Friday. Sandi Lum reported that the Issaquah Special Ed. Parent Group holds Parent Ed. seminars the second Tuesday of each month. Details can be found at the PTSA Council website, www.issaquahptsa.org, click on Parent Education. Anne Moore reported on behalf of VIS (Volunteers for Issaquah Schools). The next election is February 2010 for levies for the Issaquah School District. VIS needs cash donations as well. Magnets were available to publicize the election.

V.P. Reports: Panther Passage needs additional volunteers. Dianne Bugge reported that the next WalkAbout schedule is being developed. If volunteers have changes to their schedules, they should contact walkabout@comcast.net. WalkAbout needs a volunteer to be the scheduler for next year.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:20am. The next meeting will be December 16th in the Eagle Room at the Issaquah Police Station.