

Issaquah Middle PTSA 2.6.35
General Membership Meeting
October 19th, 2011 – 10 am
IMS Library

DRAFT

Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by Kristen Allen-Bentsen. Proper notice was given and a quorum was present. A sign in sheet is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

Staff Spotlight: Brian DeBroux, IMS librarian, was the speaker. He explained the AR (Accelerated Reader) program, described how students reading levels affect which books they choose to read, and then answered several questions. A cookie reward is given when students pass three AR tests, up to three rewards per trimester. Library times are fairly open and kids can take AR tests anytime at school. A list of AR books is on the school website. There is a homework club that meets after school on Tues, Weds, and Thurs and kids can print off assignments if needed.

ISF (Issaquah Schools Foundation) Presentation: Camille Vaska, ISF co-chair of the “All in For Kids” fundraising campaign, explained the ISF program and described some of the programs that it funds. Eighty percent of funding comes from district parents and the goal for the current campaign is \$250,000. Families should have received a mailing and the foundation will know by November 20th how much money has been raised.

Alison Meryweather, ISF IMS representative then spoke and asked for volunteers at honk and wave events on Nov 16, 17 and 19 during the morning drop off time. She did a Legislative update and explained how the PTSA legislative assembly set their agenda and made their platform during the previous week. All issues and priorities can be found on the WA State PTSA website. IMS still needs a Legislative Representative; IMS didn't get to vote on the agenda because representation is needed.

Principal's Report: Corinne DeRosa encouraged parents to attend the IMS play, The Princess and the Frog, at the end of October. She thanked volunteers for their help with the magazine drive. The IMS leadership team continues to work on the new CIP and is shifting the focus to reading after focusing on writing for several years. Work continues to improve programs for low income/free and reduced cost lunch students who total 17 percent of IMS's population.

A question was asked about the upcoming ASB social and Elaine Sakamoto, ASB liaison, explained the event and passed out volunteer sign up sheets.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the September 21, 2011 meeting were approved and filed.

Financial Report: Anne Watanabe described the October financials and a copy is on file. Michelle Lancaster, a non-signer, reviewed the financial statement. A

question was asked to Anne about whether IMS participates in an “escrrip” program. Elaine Sakamoto, Corporate Rebates chair, described the various companies that participate in rebates including Target, Office Depot, and Safeway. Box Tops are also collected. A parent volunteered to look into IMS participating in escrrip.

Anne reported that Salmon Days parking brought in \$3684 which was over the budget of \$3500.

President’s Report:

- Kristen provided information about the upcoming bond vote. PTSA needs a VIS (Volunteer for Issaquah Schools) Rep who will stay informed and be involved in bond issues.
- A grant request from the PE department was reviewed (see copy with original minutes). \$150 was requested to fund a dance instructor for a special class. A motion was passed to fund the request, discussion followed and motion was voted on and passed with all in favor.
- A motion was made to fund viewings of Finding Kind, a documentary film on girl bullying. Issaquah HS, Skyline HS and all the Issaquah middle schools PTSA’s are each giving \$500 to bring the film and its directors for two showings and discussion here. The event will be free to participants and will be held on two nights, once at each high school. The \$500 does not include funds already budgeted for Parent Education events. Discussion followed and the motion was voted on and passed with all in favor.
- Sandi Lum thanked the PTSA for their support during her illness and also for all the work they do to support the students at IMS. She also described her position as Special Education Liaison for IMS and IHS and explained how the Special Olympics have been a highlight for special education students.

VP and Committee Reports:

- Communications (Sara)- Bert Jones is in need of a volunteer for had experience with Word and Excel to help with the school directory.
- Programs (Onti) - Thank you emails should have been received by parents who donated to PTSA programs. The Angel Program will be highlighted in the next newsletter. She encouraged participation in Reflections and at the Community Center’s Fall Festival.
- Volunteers (Susan)- Volunteers are needed for several upcoming events (Vision/Hearing, Spirit Wear distribution, ASB Social), especially early shifts.
- Ana Jimenez-Inman informed the meeting that there is a new ELL person and that meeting will be help soon to determine community needs. Flyers will be up soon with more information.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.