

Issaquah Middle School PTSA 2.6.35  
General Membership Meeting  
September 21, 2011  
Issaquah police Station –Eagle Room  
Minutes

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Kristen Allen-Bentsen at 10:09. Proper notice was given and a quorum present. A sign in sheet is attached to the original minutes. All in attendance introduced themselves. Thank You's were extended to Liz Rudolph for the ongoing ASB Magazine Drive, Jennifer Deeny for 6<sup>th</sup> grade back to school check in, Katie Taliancich for Back to School packets, Dan Chernin for website, all of the Walkabout Program chairs, and Colleen Gurkin for Curriculum Night.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes from the June 2011 meeting were presented, approved with no revisions, and filed.

**Financial Report:** Anne Watanabe presented the Full\_Year 2010-2011 Annual Report as well as the July and August Treasurer's Reports. She noted that the PTSA essentially broke even last year, vs. a budget of approx negative \$5,000, even while providing an additional \$2000 to the ISF Science Initiative and \$1000 to ISD for scholarships in the Spring. For the first part of 2011-12 she noted that Pass the Hat is \$1300 below budget. Copies of the summer Treasurer's Reports (July and August) are filed. Approximately \$20000 is currently in the bank.

**President's Report:** Kristen read the list of PTSA Goals for 2011-2012. A copy is on file. Emphasis was on building a strong and supportive community. A "Get the Scoop on IMS" information night for parents is being planned for October; board members are working with school staff to get pertinent info for a presentation. A motion was made by David Johnson to pass the Goals, seconded by Onti Rosen. The motion passed unanimously.

**Principal's Report:** Corrine DeRosa thanked PTSA. IMS currently has 760 students enrolled and the percentage of students receiving free or reduced lunch had gone up to 16 percent of total population. Online registration went well; staff will work on fixing a few bugs for next year. Staff is helping gather parent info for "Get the Scoop" night and she reminded us that the IMS website has a "search" function for help with specific issues. A thank you was extended to Liz Rudolph for her work on the ASB Magazine Drive. The first day of counting orders was busy and more help is needed due to time constraints. Office staff is rearranging schedules to help and a request will go out for more volunteers. The All School Write still needs volunteers to sign up and score papers. The new CIP plan is in effect and a team is made up of department heads

who meet once a month to evaluate progress. Focus this year is on improving Reading scores, which tend to be flat compared to science or math. Work is continuing on closing the achievement gap for minorities and low income students. Corrine thanked PTSA again for the Angel Program which provides financial assistance to some of those students. In response to a question she said that scholarships and mentoring are the best ways to directly help those students in need. Finally, PAWS is going very well and while teachers love it so far, adjustments will be made as needed throughout the year.

### **New Business:**

- Standing rules needed to be amended to include training provision for board members. No change in budget was needed. Motion to approve was made by Onti Rosen and seconded by David Johnson. Motion passed.
- The annual budget, which was approved in May, was reviewed by Anne Watanabe with three changes proposed. 1. Opening day postage needed to be raised from \$100 to \$250. 2. Website charges need to be raised to \$250. Line item needs to be added for \$100 for "Get the Scoop Night". Katie Taliancich reported that her budget for Back to School Packets was lower than expected so that will be adjusted to \$100. Motion to approve changes was made by David Johnson and seconded by Alison Meryweather. Motion passed. Motion to accept budget as amended was made by David Johnson and seconded by Leah Gibson. Motion passed.
- A Financial Review for 2010-2011 was completed in July by Sally Moore, Michelle Lancaster and Stacey Smith. No problems were found. The committee recommended that receipts be utilized when cash is received and discussion followed. Onti Rosen will question how to best practice using receipts at a PTA and the Law training session and will address the issue at the October meeting.
- A Science Grant Proposal was made for six science teachers to attend the National Science Teachers Conference (grant on file). A motion to fund request was made by David Johnson and Onti Rosen seconded. Discussion followed. Positive input was given by Corrine on the value to students and teachers. Motion was reviewed and passed unanimously.
- Alison Meryweather gave an ISF description and update. Their annual campaign funds many school programs and is an umbrella organization separate from PTA . Events include Calling For Kids, Nourish Every Mind Luncheon but donations are accepted at any time during the year.
- Site council will have Onti Rosen as the PTSA representative. Council still needs a Cougar Ridge and a Clark parent rep.

### **VP and Standing Committee Reports:**

- Hospitality- VP Maria Nelson reported that the Back to School luncheon went very smoothly and thanked Karista Bennet and Camille Vaska. Back to School Night treats were much appreciated and Colleen Gurkin and April Green were thanked. Next big event will be the holiday luncheon.

- Communications- VP Sara Carmichael introduced herself. Jennifer Deeny reported that 6<sup>th</sup> grade registration went well with a few glitches related to arrival and pick up times. Leah Gibson, Parent Ed rep introduced herself and is awaiting info from the district on scheduling parent ed events at IMS.
- Way and Means- VP Sari Israel reported that cookie sales will start in October. Salmon Days parking is coming up and sign up can be done on Volunteer Spot.
- Programs- VP Onti Rosen reported that Reflections will start in October. Most Valuable Panther is a program that recognizes outstanding students; a list of names is posted at school and they get an ice cream reward. The Angel Program donations were way up from last year and the committee is still deciding how best distribute funds. Discussion followed about privacy issues, making sure the money goes to the person it is intended for, how funds are delivered and how the counselors and Julie Morgan work closely to determine specific needs. PTSA will revisit scholarships in the spring and determine how much more money is needed.
- Volunteers- Susan Poffenberger reported that any new volunteers contact her and she will direct them to the correct location for sign ups. Victoria Evans reported that Walkabout is going well and that 65 new members reported for training. Go to Volunteer Spot to sign up and make sure all forms are updated.

**Meeting was adjourned at 11:40.  
Next Meeting will be October 19<sup>th</sup>.**