



Issaquah High PTSA 2.6.45  
General Membership Meeting  
IHS Main Conference Room

March 10, 2017  
9:30 am

**Our PTSA Mission**

To expand educational opportunities and enhance the learning and social environment at IHS through programs, volunteers, advocacy, and financial support.

**Call to Order** Bertina Loeffler Sedlack called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and led introductions. Proper notice of the meeting was given and a quorum present. A sign-in sheet is attached to the original minutes.

**President's Report** (*Bertina Loeffler Sedlack and Diane Burdette*)

**Thank You** Bertina shared thanks to the following committee chairs and volunteers: Korina Sullivan for Senior Exit Interview snacks; Liz Rudolph for Senior Exit Interview volunteers; Amy Chaplin, Wendy Redding, Donna McLeod, and Sally Feldman for promoting Senior Celebration outside Senior Interviews; Lida Buckner and Heidi Fuhs for the March 8 Staff Breakfast; Birgit Aarrestad and Michele Sevart for the SAT prep class; Valerie Yanni and Tami Curtis for assembling and submitting an application for Outstanding Newsletter and eBlast award; Diane Burdette, Onti Rosen, Sara Carmichael, Ginger Wilfong, and Anne Watanabe for hosting the PTSA table at 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum Night; Diane Burdette, Victoria Evans, Adam Desautels, and Tara Church (Lunchroom Anxiety Taskforce); Diane Burdette, Onti Rosen, Valerie Yanni, and Patti Miller for Parent Survey follow up; Golden Acorn/Outstanding Advocate Awards team Marni Kilzi, Rebecca Fay, Marla Baldinelli, and Sara Carmichael (and thanks to all who submitted a nomination); the Nominating Committee Anne Watanabe, Rebecca Fay and Sara Carmichael; and Ginger Wilfong and Stacy Heller for the themed meeting snacks. Diane Burdette expressed thanks to Bertina for assembling and submitting the SOE awards notebook.

Diane spoke about the Lunchroom Anxiety Taskforce, which was created to address issues raised by a student psychology class project. Diane asked Victoria Evans to get involved as Healthy Student chair. The school is already addressing some of the concerns—more seating has been ordered and the microwaves have been moved to create better flow in the commons.

Diane also spoke about the Parent Survey follow up. Diane, Patti Miller, Onti Rosen, and Sara Carmichael met to discuss the open responses. One of the topics most cited in the survey is tutoring. Diane spoke to Andrea McCormick, who agreed to put a link on the IHS home page to the existing tutoring resources. The team is also looking into diversity and PTSA awareness, two other issues uncovered by the survey.

**Secretary's Report** (*Sara Carmichael*)

The February 2017 minutes were reviewed, approved as submitted, and filed.

**Treasurer's Report** (*Patti Miller*)

Patti Miller presented the February 2017 Financial report.

**Other Financial Business**

- The February 2017 bank statements were reviewed by Margaret Chalfant, an independent non-signer.
- No insurance claims were filed in February 2017.
- WSPTA Dues were paid via auto debit on February 3, 2017.

## **Business**

**WSPTA Convention** Bertina reported the WSPTA Convention is scheduled for April 28-30, 2017 at the SeaTac Hilton and Convention Center. Registration opens March 14. Bertina encouraged people to attend. The IH PTSA will pay the registration fee. The agenda is available on the Washington State PTA website.

**WSPTA Website** Bertina noted that the WSPTA has face-lifted their website ([wastatepta.org](http://wastatepta.org)).

**Group Awards** IH PTSA has submitted applications for Standards of Excellence and Outstanding Newsletter and eBlast awards. Judging results will be announced at Convention on Friday, April 28.

**IH PTSA Elections** Bertina announced that the April 7 GMM will feature the election of IH PTSA officers for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Issaquah Schools Foundation** The Issaquah Schools Foundation Nourish Every Mind (NEM) Luncheon is May 11, 2017 at Meyedenbauer Center in Bellevue and the NEM Breakfast is May 17, 2017 at Eastridge Church. Bertina will be a table captain at one of these events. Contact her if you would like to attend.

## **Committee Reports**

**Advocacy** Dea Barnett reported on legislative issues. The Senate passed a Paraeducators bill, which aligns with a Top Five State PTSA issue. The Senate also extended the levy cliff until January 2019. Dea also announced a forum on Saturday, March 11, 1:00-3:00 pm at Tyee Middle School that will feature legislators from the 5<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> districts and focus on education funding.

**Membership** Bertina shared that our membership is continuing to grow as families of seniors are joining. Membership is at 1,408, including 62 staff members. A list of member benefits was on display. That information is also available on [wastatepta.org](http://wastatepta.org) and the national PTA site. Bertina will check if she can post the benefits list in the staff lounge.

**Nominating Committee** Anne Watanabe noted that the committee is still actively pursuing nominations for Events and Communications. Contact Anne if interested or for more information.

**Awards** Marni Kilzi described the Golden Acorn and Outstanding Advocate awards and the selection process. She announced the following award recipients:

Outstanding Advocate: Heidi Fuhs

Golden Acorn: Margaret Chalfant, Barbara Howe, Sara Carmichael, and Bertina Loeffler Sedlack

Marni announced that nominations are open for Outstanding Educator through 4/16, midnight. She showed a promotional flyer for Outstanding Educator designed by a student in the graphic design class. These flyers will be posted around the school.

## **Events**

Robin Hodder noted that Events is looking ahead to the spring PE 5K.

**Senior Events** Patti Miller said 202 seniors are signed up for the senior party. The goal is 300.

## **Communications**

**General Communications** Valerie Yanni announced that she submitted a list of events to be published in the Issaquah Schools Foundation Cultural Bridges magazine.

**Issaquah Schools Foundation** Issaquah Schools Foundation is hosting an Illuminating Evening on Thursday March 23, 7-9pm at Blakely Hall that will include an ISF presentation, light appetizers, and Glassybaby products for purchase (10% of sales supports the foundation).

Valerie also mentioned volunteer opportunities to help present the Kateri Brow winners on 3/24. Talk to Valerie if you are interested in helping.

There are two finalists for the Issaquah Schools Foundation Executive Director position.

## **Programs**

**Parent Ed** Dea Barnett noted that Daylight Savings time begins March 12 and segued to the importance of sleep. Posters for sleep awareness will be posted in some schools tomorrow.

Upcoming Parent Ed events: The next State of Mind Mini-Conferences are March 11 at Liberty High School from 11:30-4:30 and April 29 at IHS. Register on ParentWiser.org. • Hidden in Plain Sight, March 28, 6:30-8:30pm, at Liberty HS will help parents learn the signs of at-risk behaviors in youth • Healthy Youth Initiative Youth Suicide Prevention Forum (for students and parents) is March 30, 7-9pm at the Issaquah Police Station Eagle Room • Heidi Fuhs announced that ParentWiser added a second Jessica Lahey Gift of Failure presentation on April 25 at 10:00 am at Village Theatre First Stage on Front Street. Find details and register for either presentation at ParentWiser.org. A follow-up community discussion will be held about a month after the presentations. Lahey's book is available at the King County Library, Barnes and Noble, and Amazon.com.

**New Family Ambassador** Leslie Guajardo emphasized that the New Family Ambassador Program is all about community, not JUST new people. The next event is March 23 from 6-9pm at Capri Cellars. Another event is being planned for April 20 and the year-end potluck lunch will be May 18. Links to register with the program are on the IH PTSA website.

**Community Service** Current seniors must submit volunteer hours by May 2<sup>nd</sup>. The process is all online.

**College Test Prep** A Combination ACT/SAT test will be held May 20<sup>th</sup>. An ACT preparation course begins April 22.

**Senior Scholarships** Applications for Senior Scholarships are due April 17, right after spring break.

**Reflections** Three Issaquah High students won State Reflections honors: Abigail Heyrich, Award of Merit for Music Composition; Isobel Grudin, Award of Excellence for Film Production; and Katherine Bonsi, Award of Excellence for Visual Arts.

**Healthy Student** A self-defense workshop will be held at IHS on April 6 from 2:30-4:30pm. Ms. Belur is the IHS contact for the event. IH PTSA is supporting this event sponsored by The WAVE Foundation.

## **Hospitality**

No Report.

## **Speakers**

**Neil Lasher, Security Officer** Neil Lasher discussed some of the issues he's encountered recently at IHS (drugs, alcohol, and graffiti) and the traffic and student parking issues. Road improvements, including a traffic light at the intersection of Sunset and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, should be done by fall 2017.

**Andrea McCormick, Principal** Andrea McCormick discussed the impending Course Selection activities. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Welcome Night was March 1. On March 15, current 9-11 grade students will have Course Selection information presented throughout the school day. Registration opens March 16 and closes on March 22. Computers will be available on March 23 for students who have not completed course selection. Information about 7<sup>th</sup> period classes is available in the course catalog. Registration for those classes is handled separately. • Andrea also discussed current planning to address whole-child education including Mindfulness, Founders Day Kids, and classes for life skills such as Personal Finance.

**Erin Connolly, Activities Director** Erin Connolly noted that ASB Executive Board has been elected. Class Council Elections are coming up the last week of March. • The Tolo is April 1, 8:30-11pm. Tolo Assembly is March 24. The Tolo Week (March 27-31) Theme is the 80s. Erin shared the themes and activities for each day of Tolo Week. • IHS is hosting a blood drive on March 31. Students must be 16 years old (under 18 requires guardian signature) and the drive is open to the public. • The annual canned food drive has not been as successful as in the past. (This year's theme is Munch Madness.)

## **Adjourned 11:32**

**Next Meeting:** April 7, 2017 9:30 am IHS Main Conference Room