



Issaquah High PTSA 2.6.45 General Membership Meeting

March 10, 2023
9:30 AM

Via Zoom

DRAFT

Our PTSA Mission

The IH PTSA strives to expand educational opportunities and enhance the learning and social environment at Issaquah High School, through programs, volunteers, advocacy, and financial support benefiting all Issaquah High School students, families, and the community.

Call to Order Wendy Maruchek called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Proper notice of the meeting. was given and a quorum was present. Meeting documents were distributed via email and posted to the IH PTSA website.

In attendance: Wendy Maruchek, Tracy Drake, Erin Eaton, Leah Maggs, Julie Gamble, Wendy Cummins, Karissa Mobilia, Josi Beck, Shannon Dasgupta, Chelsea Musick, Shravya Nellutla, Kim Wilkinson, Shamitha Sridharan, Cecilia Lee, Arthi Mohanraj, Tracie Kinsley, Raquel Koz, Tanya Russell, Seonhee Jeon, Stephane Smithson Chan, Heather Tow-yick, Simon Koz

President's Report (*Wendy Maruchek*)

Welcomed everyone to the meeting.

All meeting documents, including the consent agenda, can be found on our website. Links were included with the meeting invite.

The consent agenda (February meeting minutes) will be filed as presented.

Thanked volunteers, by name, for helping with Hospitality, New Family Connections, Senior Yard Signs, Senior Party, Senior Breakfast, and Senior Farewell.

Open positions:

- Staff Appreciation Co-Chairs
- College and Career Center - College Fair
- New Family Connections Co-Chairs
- 2023-24 SAT/ACT Practice Tests Shadow Chair
- 2023-24 Textbook Checkout
- 2023-24 Picture Day
- 2023-24 board members

Please reach out to Wendy Maruchek if interested in any of these positions.

Treasurer's Report (*Erin Eaton, Pauline Tamblyn*)

- Reviewed February financial report.
- Mid-year financial review
 - Held on February 7
 - Committee members: Kim Wilkinson, Linda Stone, and Qun Pan

- All documents were readily available for review
- Recommendation: better streamline the password recovery process
- Recommendation: ask for a receipt from IHS/recipient for grants

Secretary's Report (Tracy Drake)

- Nominating Committee update - We have talked to some great people and filled several slots, but still have a few we are looking to fill:
 - co-President
 - co-VP of Programs
 - co-VP of Events
 - co-VP of Communications
 - Director of Advocacy
 - Director of Best Practices
- Please reach out to Tracy Drake, Shravya Nellutla, or Qun Pan if you have any interest or would like to learn more about any of the open positions.

Speakers

Heather Tow-yick, Issaquah School District Superintendent

- Thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and had everyone introduce themselves and share our favorite thing about our students.
- Three big topics on her mind
 - Equity and Experience of our Students
 - Strategic Planning
 - Budget
- High School # 4 -
 - Desire for augmented, skills-relevant opportunities environment to learn in - current schools are built on an outdated model
 - The new school will be built on an updated model
 - Need to relieve overcrowding
 - Really looking at what is the purpose of our high school learning
 - Having to revisit the funding plan due to higher costs
 - Taking the opportunity to take another look at what we really need for the future
- Don't anticipate re-boundarying in the next year and a half
- Was asked about sports and extracurriculars beyond the school day in elementary schools - for example 5th grade orchestra - will need to look into that and how we would fund
- Was asked about how to identify gifted students in elementary through high school - how can we challenge our students in a better way - discussed how we can challenge individuals in the school district
- Was asked about the budget and how ISD parents can advocate to the state on how our district is funded - will be sure to share contact information when the district feels there is a need for parents to engage
- Was asked about foreign language offerings in middle school - there is a continued topic of course offerings, including additional and expanded foreign language offerings - will not be offering additional offerings next year due to cuts
- Was asked about PE requiring the 5k for all students vs. providing other aerobic activities - the 5k is no longer part of the IHS PE program
- Teachers are working on offering alternative opportunities to show mastery of a subject

Erin Connolly, Principal:

- School Improvement Plan
 - Focus on graduation rates - 90-94% historically, but disproportionality exists between groups
 - Overall: 2020-21 school year = 94.1%; 2021-22 school year 96.7% (includes the help of waivers)
 - Black students: 81.3% and 88.2% for the same time periods
 - Latinx students: 82.9% and 92.2% for the same time periods
 - 2024 overall goal of 95% w/focus area closing the gap for Black and Latinx students
 - Staff Professional Development to help service all students

- Aligning curriculum and grading practices
- Increased credit recovery options -
 - allowing guided studies (pass/fail option)
 - offering after-school credit recovery through an online class in canvas
 - identifying students in the last 6 weeks of the semester who will likely not be able to pass a class and offering credit recovery modules
- Attendance is a key indicator of whether or not students graduate
 - implemented hall passes to better determine who should be in class - no passes in the first and last 10 minutes of class
 - assistant principals ran reports with 10+ day absences and proactively set up meetings with families to discuss best supports to increase attendance
- counselors working with small groups based on needs assessment
- offering mental health support offerings
- math support - twice a week homework labs available, NEST offerings, pre-algebra course now available, added support classes for second semester - students automatically registered for the teacher-recommended course next year, but there is an appeal process
- focus on 9th graders - evidence shows students ending 9th grade with at least 6 credits graduate at a much higher rate - connection to the community - mentorships - added 9th grade guided studies - trying to reduce class sizes in core 9th-grade classes
- Discussed how to better support Running Start students who are struggling - unfortunately, IHS is not notified about grades until the end of the quarter
- SAT at IHS for Juniors on March 22 - registered students will receive an email with instructions
- Students were automatically registered for teacher-recommended math class, but there is an appeal process
- Course registration re-opens the first week of April so students can review which classes they registered for - there are several classes that did not have enough students register for and will be canceled
- TOLO is April 1 - tickets are available April 13-30 from the bookkeeper - form is needed if students intend to bring someone from another school
- Xello - program students use to complete high school and beyond plan - <https://sites.google.com/site/issaquahhsccl/h-s-beyond-plan?authuser=0#h.wk5s0s748lg5>
- Finals schedule will be released by March 16

Committee Reports

Membership (*Shravya Nellutla and Wendy Cummins*)

Staff - 123 - 100% staff membership achieved

Family - 595

Individual - 91

Student - 16

Total - 825 - the goal is 900 members

If you are not yet an Issaquah High PTSA member, you can join at www.tinyurl.com/ihptsaJoin

Events (*Sathya Kannan*)

Senior Events - hosting all night grad party at Dave and Busters from 10 PM - 2 AM - bringing in DJ and casino tables, and a magician - there will be food - working on transportation - tickets will go on sale soon

Senior Signs - sale open through 3/14

Senior Farewell - June 13 tentative date - provides families and students a chance to take pictures in caps and gowns

Senior Breakfast - June 14 tentative date

Donations for senior events are welcomed. Can donate on our website.

Outreach (Karissa Mobilia and Chanju Lee)

Angel

Can sign up to be part of the Angel committee on our website:

<https://issaquahhighptsa.org/Packet/Volunteer/VolunteeringPacketPage/1>

Lunch for the Break signup: <https://issaquahfoodbank.org/lunchforthebreak>

New Family Connections

Lunch with the Principal on March 24, from 12:30-1:30 at IHS.

To join New Family Connections:

- As a new parent: www.tinyurl.com/IHSNewFamily
- As a seasoned parent: www.tinyurl.com/IHSNewFamilyAmbassador
- More info: www.tinyurl.com/IHSNewFamilyConnections

ParentWiser

Healthy Student Event Understanding Eating Disorders - March 20 - register www.parentwiser.org

Programs (Tanya Russell and Kim Wilkinson)

College and Career Center

Q&A about Running Start on March 14 via Zoom - includes IHS Counselor, Bellevue College representative, and Running Start students - asking for attendees to submit questions in advance to ihptsaprograms@gmail.com

Running Start video by IHS Counselors:

Senior Scholarships

Deadline - 4/17 www.tinyurl.com/ihptsaseniorscholarships - 5 \$1,000 scholarships available

Reflections

Congratulated artists moving to State and Nationals.

Community Service

Reviewed the program and encouraged students to participate by logging their hours.

Grants

The next grant cycle due date is March 14.

Hospitality (Qun Pan)

Staff Breakfasts

Next Staff Breakfast is on April 1. To sign up to donate:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508054aa8a922a3fc1-ihstaff7#/>

To get on the volunteer list: <https://issaquahhighptsa.org/Packet/Volunteer/GuestInfoPacketPage/0>

Staff Appreciation Week

May 1-5

Can donate via the PTSA website: <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/IssaquahHighPTSA>

Communications (Chelsea Musick and Lindsey Pinkston)

Please follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

- <https://www.facebook.com/IssaquahHighPTSA>
- <https://www.twitter.com/ihptsa>

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- <https://www.instagram.com/ihptsa>

WeChat (Mandarin) and WhatsApp (Spanish) To be added to a group, email: ihptsaface@gmail.com

IHS Families has a new WhatsApp group so parents, guardians, caregivers, and students can ask questions. To join: <https://bit.ly/IHS-Whatsapp>

Other (Wendy Maruchek)

Awards - Golden Acorn, Outstanding Advocate, and Outstanding Educator nominations open:

<https://issaquahhighptsa.org/Page/Programpages/Awards>

Golden Acorn and Outstanding Advocate nominations are due March 19.

Outstanding Educator nominations are due April 2.

Issaquah School Foundation Nourish Every Mind luncheon on April 27. You can register at: www.isfdn.org/ If you would like to join us at the PTSA table, email: issaquahhighptsa@gmail.com

Influence the Choice -

Influence the Choice video contest - due March 18 - <https://www.influencethechoice.org>

The Garage - issaquahteencafe.org - free drop-in counseling Monday-Friday from 4-6

ISD Family Partnership events: <https://www.isd411.org/programs-services/equity/parent-events-and-workshops>

Upcoming Events

March 14, 7 PM, IH PTSA Running Start Info Session

March 17, Teacher Work Day (no school)

March 19, Golden Acorn Nominations Due

March 19, Outstanding Advocate Nominations Due

March 22, SATs for Juniors at IHS. This is an official (but optional) college application SAT.

March 24, 12:30-1:30 PM, Lunch with the Principal @ IHS conference room. All are welcome.

April 2, Outstanding Educator Nominations Due

April 5, IHS Staff Appreciation Breakfast

April 5, Senior Exit Interviews by IHS College and Career Center

April 14, PTSA Grant Applications Due

April 19, 7 PM, IH PTSA Evening GMM, Special Ed PTSA will be the guest speaker

April 21, student lunch, College and Career Center "Spring Into College" event

April 27, Issaquah Schools Foundation's Nourish Every Mind Fundraiser

Adjourned 11:22 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Drake, Secretary