

December 13, 2012
General Membership Meeting
Board of Director's Meeting
Issaquah High PTSA, Unit 2.6.45

General Membership Meeting/Board Of Directors Meeting Issaquah High PTSA 2.6.45

Proper notice was given to all members and a quorum was present.

Call to Order and Welcome

- The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

President's Report – Blair Baumer

- Acknowledgements: Allison Meryweather (ISF All-in-for Kids) and Sandi Lum (Special Services)
- Principal Meeting Report: none (unable to meet this past month.)
- Council Meeting Report: none (meeting is later today.)
- Mid-year Review of Goals: *Communication* - Great newsletter format is now in place and the website is effective and is updated regularly. *Service to Needy Families* - Recent grant to special needs kids; Angel Program is in full swing. *Welcoming Environment* - "New to IHS Night" extremely successful (standing room only!) *Partnership with ASB*: Fashion Show is expected to be even bigger and better than last year.
- Survey: Blair plans to do a Zoomerang survey and wants to solicit topics and assemble a committee. E-mail to come.

Secretary's Report - Anne Watanabe for Cyn Baumert

- November minutes were presented and filed.

Treasurer's Report -Laura Freeman

- November financial reports were presented and filed. Note that Senior Celebration is already nearing its income target - donations alone top \$6,000!
- November bank statements to be reviewed.

New Business

- Nominating Committee: ***Motion: Designate Jody Mull and Liz Rudolph as alternates for Nominating Committee.*** (Laura Freeman proposed/Marilyn Evans seconded/unanimous approval).
- Fashion Show: PTSA needs to finalize contract with ASB on sharing of funds. ***Motion: Allocate 50% of net proceeds to ASB. (Jody Mull proposed/Allison Meryweather seconded/unanimous approval.)***
- Mock Crash: This event, for juniors and seniors occurs every other year, and is coming up on May 15. At same time, sophomores watch "Think Again" video about texting and driving. ***Motion: Increase Mock Crash budget to \$3,500. (Dianne Bugge proposed/Laura Freeman seconded/unanimous approval.)***

Committee Reports

- Advocacy: Jody Mull reported that the charter schools initiative passed and that the school board rejected the proposal to change Liberty's block schedule. Also, she is working to connect with the IEA representatives at the high schools to start a conversation on the homework policy.
- ISF: Allison Meryweather reported that the "All-in for Kids" drive took in \$367,000, exceeding the goal of \$330,000. She also gave a shout out to IHS kids, who were the biggest group of callers. Next up is the ISF luncheon in May.

- Reflections: Blair Baumer (for Karen Starceovich) reported that there were 13 entries from IHS, consistent with past showings. Awards sent to IHS students Kendall Lum, Michelle Sun, Clare Warren and Hannah Balducce.
- Special Services. Sandi Lum reported that the basketball team is starting its season with a new coach and 18 players. Their first game is Jan. 9. The Issaquah Special Needs group has a seminar on Jan. 15 at Clark.
- Fashion Show: Pat Batt reported on the ASB Auction/Fashion Show scheduled for March 8 (silent auction 6:00 pm and fashion show/ live auction at 7:30 pm. Planning is well underway, and there's a positive buzz among students -- already 67 kids have signed up to be models, but seniors will have first priority. There will be 3 rehearsals, including a run through on March 5. Pricing: VIPs \$50/Orchestra Seating \$20/Students \$5.
- Volunteers: Volunteers needed for 5K on Jan. 11.
- Healthy Student: Issaquah Community Network is sponsoring a drug awareness video contest for students. IHS I-Vision created a short video to explain it. Encourage your creative/film types to enter by Feb. 28 Grand prize: \$800.
- Angel Program: Kim Michael (IHS Registrar) reported that there are currently 58 families in the program. Many requests came from needy kids after the e-mail and I-Vision report. Decisions are made to fund specific needs as they arise, and most of the \$6,000 raised has been spent. Also, donations of clothes (coats, jeans, shoes) were solicited over the last month and put in the "Angel Closet". Yesterday the closet (in back of library) opened at 8:00 am and families were able to discretely shop for items. Staff and admin are thrilled with the program and are inspired to encourage/expand it.

Teacher's Report - Tim Baynes

- Homecoming/Veteran's Day/Winterfest: Tim talked briefly about Homecoming and what a great success it was, particularly the overwhelming support by the students of this year's cause - the Special Olympics, and the Project Unify basketball game, with varsity players and special needs students. Another inspiring student-lead endeavor was the Veterans Day Video. This week is "Winterfest", which means a different activity and dress code every day (pajama day, snowboard day, etc.) Kids are really getting into it, with lots of positive energy throughout school. Acoustic night was a big success, and he was heartened by the number of students participating who haven't been involved in anything else. Kids were very encouraging of the performers. Some took it upon themselves to raise money for Hurricane Sandy victims.
- Angel Program/Staff Ideas: Prompted by the PTSA initiative to reach out to the needy students at IHS, the teachers brainstormed areas in which they could help. Four areas emerged: (1) Summer enrichment programs -- informative classes right before school starts on topics related to navigating high school, (2) Building relationships with families -- more direct contact, home visits, BBQs, etc. in order to reach out to them, (3) Technology shortfalls -- find easier ways to get technology to kids, such as lending out laptops, doing a school-wide technology fundraiser, etc. and (4) Other in-classroom strategies.

Principal's Report - Paula Phelps

- Student Outreach: Paula thanked the Angel Program and noted that it has been an inspiration for staff and students to address poverty at our school. There seems to be a new energy and mindset. Example-- a student came into the office with a bad toothache, but couldn't see a dentist, so the Registrar just called up a local dentist who donated his services. Note: IHS has 178 free/reduced lunch students, on its way to being the highest % in the district.
- Highly Capable Students: IHS continues to do a great job with these students, providing lots of AP options, challenging teachers and extracurricular opportunities. Congratulations to Karthik Palaniappan who was one of only 4 students in the world to get a perfect score on his AP U.S. Government and Politics test!
- Homework Policy Review: The IEA reps did a good job communicating with teachers about the ongoing district homework policy review and Paula thinks it will be a positive and productive process.
- Liberty Schedule: Paula gave an overview of the issues surrounding last night's school board discussion/vote regarding the superintendent's proposal to change Liberty's 8-period block system. Now that the Board decided against it, Paula is working with the district to obtain additional funds for IHS to offer more options for our kids who need to be at school for extracurricular and academic activities. This may be in the form of after/before school transportation.

Upcoming Events

- Jan 17 IH PTSA Meeting 9:30 am @ IHS
- Jan 21 Martin Luther King Day - No School
- Jan 23-25 Finals
- Jan 26 Mock ACT

- Feb 2 Mock SAT
- Feb 18-22 2nd Winter Break - No School

Meeting Adjourned

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 am.