



Issaquah High PTSA 2.6.45
General Membership Meeting
Via Zoom

September 11, 2020
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 Kim Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 9:30am. Proper notice of the meeting was given and a quorum was present. In attendance: Birgit Aarrestad, Alisa George, Tara Moe, Bhavna Patel, Rachel Stoner, Laura Schmidt, Wendy Maruchek, Satnam Purewal, Renee Barnes, Blyth Claeys, Wendy Cummins, Sathyapriya Kanan, Heidi Fuhs, Kristen Allen-Bentsen, Amy Korb, Brenda Laurence, Ted Eckert, Eloisa Tang, Carolyn Kennedy, Julie Gamble, Andrew Pedersen, Marisa Garcia Struck, and Carla Geraci.

President's Report (*Kim Wilkinson, Birgit Aarrestad*)

Kim Wilkinson reported the following information:

- Thanks to our summer volunteers:
 - *Staff Appreciation Welcome Back Bags* – Hospitality Co-Chairs Rachel Stoner and Laura Schmidt
 - *New to IHS Night - Zoom Breakout session leaders*: PTSA – Kristen Allen-Bentsen, Heidi Fuhs, and Kim Wilkinson; New Family Ambassadors – Cathy Habib and Wendy Cummins; Chinese – Cindy Liu and Wendy Maruchek; Spanish – Marisa Garcia Struck and Blyth Claeys
 - *New Family Ambassadors Welcome Coffees* – Co-Chairs Cathy Habib and Lisa Hill.
- New social media “Spotlight” series featuring teachers, staff, students, and recent alumni will help people get to know the IHS community.
- Thanks to our speakers this month: IHS Principal Andrea McCormick and ASB Director Jordan Frost.
- Check issaquahhighptsa.org for the most current information about upcoming events

Secretary's Report (*Alisa George*)

The May 29, 2020, minutes were reviewed and filed as presented.

Treasurer's Report (*Tara Moe*)

Tara presented the July and August 2020 Financial Report. Bank statements have been reviewed by a non-signer (Bhavna Patel). The year-end financial review was completed on July 14, 2020. Results are posted on our website. There were no findings. Thank you to the financial review committee: Eloisa Tang, Sally Porter, and Megan Haas.

Tara presented the Budget Committee's recommendation for the 2020-2021 Budget. There are a lot of unknowns this year so budget will probably be revised more frequently than in prior years. The Budget Committee has recommended numerous changes to the preliminary budget adopted last May, including: (1) setting Membership sales income based on a projected 800 members (down from 1,140), with a corresponding decrease in Membership Fees; (2) reducing Pass the Hat donations from \$30,000 to \$20,000; (3) reducing Corporate Matching from \$6,000 to \$4,000, and (4) reducing Grant expenses reduced from \$10,000 to \$5,000. Also note that the All Night Grad Party line item represents the net of the cancellation refund received from the vendor and ticket refunds issued that fell into in this fiscal year. There is also an increase in the budget for our website (currently Our School Pages) from \$120 to \$850 in case we need to change our website host because Our School Pages becomes less usable after December.

MOTION 1 Kristen Allen-Bentsen moved to approve the 2020-2021 budget with the recommended changes. Motion was seconded. Voice vote. Motion passes.

Committee Reports

Outreach (*Blyth Claeys*)

New Family Ambassadors

Co-chair Lisa Hill noted that the purpose of group is to connect newcomers to the IHS community. Welcome Coffee held at Central Park in the Issaquah highlands yesterday. Three new families attend. The next event, Twin Falls Nature Hike, will take place on Sept. 22 at 10:00am.

Ask an Academic Advisor Night

This event, hosted by the school counselors, will take place virtually in October on a date TBA. The presentations will be translated into different languages with help from the FACE Committee.

Angel Closet

Karissa Mobilia and Julie Gamble were introduced as the new co-Chairs. They will share a more comprehensive report in October.

Parent Education

Heidi Fuhs reported on two upcoming presentations:

- "Talking to Kids About Race & Bias" by Rosetta Lee, Sept. 14 @ 7:00pm (GR6-12)
- "Motivating Teens" by Sharon Saline, October 7 at 1:00pm .

Register at parentwiser.org.

Membership (*Kim Wilkinson for Renee Barnes and Nicole Garcia*)

634 members, 1 staff. Goal is 800 members.

Programs (*Wendy Cummins and Sathya Kannan*)

College and Career Planning

Mock ACT/SAT tests will be held virtually on Nov. 7 (ACT) and Nov. 14 (SAT). The scoreback session will be on Nov. 18. Signups will be available starting next week. "College Week" series of Zoom webinars for parents and students will be held on Sept, 28 (applying to college), Sept. 30 (college essay writing workshop for students), and Oct. 1 (paying for college). Registration links are on our website.

Reflections

Theme is "I Matter Because." Entries are due Oct. 30. There will be a process for physical turn-ins of visual art. More information will be provided closer to the deadline.

Grants & Community Service

First round of Grant requests due on Oct. 16. We are looking for volunteers to serve on the Grants committee. The Community Service award recognizes students who volunteer 100+ hours during high school. Hours can be logged on our website at any time.

Communications (*Satnam Purewal and Wendy Maruchek*)

Social Media

Satnam reported the following stats:

- IHPTSA has 605 followers on Facebook; our Spotlight for Jordan Frost reached 1,133 people, and our post of the remote learning schedule reached 1,300 people
- IHPTSA has 388 followers on Instagram and 69 on Twitter, but our posts reach 100-400 people there despite the lower number of followers

Family and Community Engagement (FACE)

We have a Mandarin Chinese WeChat group, and a Spanish WhatsApp group. Email Communications to be added to either group.

Events (*Heidi Fuhs and Kristen Allen-Bentsen*)

Senior Events

We will be assembling a committee in the next month or so, and we are looking for Senior parents who want to participate. We are committed to bringing lots of creative ideas to these events if they have to be virtual again.

Business

Approval of Mission, Goals and Standing Rules

Kim Wilkinson presented the current IH PTSA Mission and Goals. These were reviewed by Board in August, and the board determined that no changes would be proposed for this year.

MOTION 1 Wendy Maruchek moved to approve the Mission and Goals as presented. The motion was seconded. Voice vote, and the IH PTSA Mission and Goals were approved for the 2020-2021 school year.

Kim Wilkinson presented the current IH PTSA Standing Rules, last updated in April 2020. No modifications are being proposed.

MOTION 2 Wendy Maruchek moved to approve the standing rules as presented. The motion was seconded. Voice vote, and the IH PTSA Standing Rules were approved for the 2020-2021 school year.

Speaker

The speaker, IHS Principal Andrea McCormick, was introduced.

Principal McCormick reported that school opening went as well as possible under the circumstances. Enrollment is about the same as last year. Per the district, very few schools showed an increase in enrollment. Drops were at the elementary level—primarily parents postponing Kindergarten. IHS has had good attendance: 90% average for synchronous class attendance. Many parents have been annoyed at receiving calls about classes where their student failed to log in. She pointed out that teachers are required by law to take attendance in synchronous classes, and that parents have to be notified of absences, even if the student makes up the class asynchronously later. Autodialer message will be updated to specify that an absence relates only to synchronous attendance. Asynchronous attendance takes about a week to post. Andrea will send an eNews next Monday or Tuesday giving instructions to parents on how to reduce absence notifications to only one method. There also will be a button for parents to opt out of absence notifications by agreeing to ensure asynchronous attendance but it hasn't been released yet. Tech requests continue to be fulfilled—hopefully by next week all students will have what they need.

Materials distribution has gone smoothly so far. Yearbook, photos, and clubs are next steps. Student pictures depend on contracts with photography companies and Dorian won't do outdoor shoots. IHS is working with Dorian to either get them to agree to take outdoor photos, or terminate their contract so IHS can contract with a company that is willing to take outdoor photos. She hopes to have an answer about this in the next week.

Question regarding recordings of class sessions for asynchronous viewing—why are they not available until the next day? Per principal McCormick, the teachers' contract specifies upload of recording by end of following day. Upload speed is the issue—it can take up to an hour to upload a Zoom video and it can't be done while live teaching, so the contract gives teachers extra time to get the class uploaded. It would be faster if teachers could just leave the recordings on Zoom, but they will be auto-deleted after a certain amount of time. It would also help with the Canvas storage limits—teachers are finding that uploaded videos are taking up a huge chunk of their allotted space. There is discussion going on around how long the asynchronous sessions need to be available, and IHS is working with the Tech Department to problem-solve this. Teachers should be accepting late work for full credit for at least a week after the due date on account of the same upload-speed issues. Reach out to individual teachers if this isn't happening.

Question regarding when students might return to in-person instruction? School Board is discussing return to school but metrics in King County do not look good for high school. We probably won't meet standard (under 75 case per 100,000 over a two week period) until Spring, and even then, LRC-2 and K-1 students will likely be first to return. Sports have similar metrics. Under the KingCo Conference's decision to delay fall sports, Dec. 29 would be the earliest that sports could restart.

Question regarding status of PSAT testing? The College Board has added an additional test date in January. The test would normally be given in October to 10th and 11th graders, but it's off the table for 10th graders this year. Hopefully IHS will offer the test to all 11th graders in January. The test also will be offered in October to students who were not able to complete course work in the Spring because it is an alternate way to satisfy graduation requirements.

Speaker

The speaker, IHS ASB Coordinator Jordan Frost, was introduced.

Jordan Frost is in his second year at IHS and teaching ASB Leadership and acting as Activities Director. Goal is to give students as many opportunities as possible to experience servant leadership. He believes that learning happens when students have significant relationships at the school, so he tries to create a positive, welcoming, and inclusive school culture. The club renewal process is beginning now. Eventually all information will be available on the Activities page. Clubs that want to be active are meeting through Zoom. These meetings must have an adult present, so the links are on the Advisor's Canvas page. Most national-linked clubs (DECA, NHS, JSA have some sort of virtual program. Key Club is looking for a new staff advisor so it's not functioning yet. Co-curricular programs (Band orchestra, journalism) are still functioning but they are exploring what it means to be active during remote learning. ASB income has been significantly reduced this year because of the decision to cut the ASB fee in half (from \$60 to \$30). If sports do come back, ASB plans to charge the other \$30. Yearbook is still being produced and price will be reduced. Once the price has been determined, that information will be communicated. ASB is still working hard—a virtual assembly will be held on Sept. 23. You can watch it on the "Issaquah High School ASB" channel on YouTube. ASB also is running a food drive during materials distribution. Families can drop off donations at the front entrance of the school through Sept. 17. Club Fair will be held on Oct. 16 during "NEST" time. A new idea this year is a "Community Service Matchmaker" service to connect students to community organizations that are looking for virtual volunteers. When live, it will be on the Activities website. ASB also is planning working with Bloodworks NW to plan a blood drive. More info to come. Subscribe to the YouTube channel and follow @issaquahasb on Instagram.

Business

Election of Officer to Fill Vacant Position

Sheila Barlow resigned as Co-V.P. of Communications in August. The Uniform Bylaws provide that a new Co-V.P. of Communications may be elected at the next general membership meeting. A candidate for the vacant position of Co-V.P. of Communications has stepped forward. Satnam Purewal nominated Wendy Maruchek for the position of Co-V.P. of Communications and Wendy accepted the nomination. The nomination was seconded. There were no further nominations from the floor.

MOTION 3 Satnam Purewal moved to approve Wendy Marucheck as Co-V.P. of Communications. The motion was seconded. Voice vote, and Wendy Marucheck was elected Co-V.P. of Communications.

Kim Wilkinson also noted that Toni Hunter has resigned as Director of Advocacy. Carla Geraci has offered to serve as Director of Advocacy and also to chair the Awards Committee. Carla will be appointed to these positions by the Board, as provided in our Standing Rules.

Adjourned 11:15 AM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Alisa E. George, Secretary