

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING  
OF THE 1998-99 IMSA PARENTS ASSOCIATION  
OCTOBER 17, 1998**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President David Dean called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**II. ATTENDANCE**

Attendance was taken and a quorum was present.

**III. MINUTES**

A motion was made by John Thompson and seconded by Sharen Gerlich that the minutes for the September 17th meeting be approved.

IV. DR. SINNER introduced Dr. Judy Shepler who is becoming involved with the Granger Center. She informed the Parents Council of her involvement with IMSA and her program focused towards the education of science teachers.

**V. PRESIDENT\*S REPORT**

David Dean reported on the following items:

1. Board of Trustees meeting - what IMSA did over the summer.
  - a. Dr. Nokkentved - a model developed on problem based learning.
  - b. IMSA students developed and operated the Science Explorer Camp held on campus last June. It was big success for the students and community.
2. David introduced the book Problems as Possibilities authored by IMSA faculty, Linda Torp and Sara Sage. The book covers the philosophy of education at IMSA and a problem based curriculum for grades K-12. For copies, contact the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development or Michelle Adams ([adams@imsa.edu](mailto:adams@imsa.edu)).
3. The implementation procedures for the student records policy have not yet been finalized. Drafts of the procedures will be distributed later in the meeting.
4. The Downstate meeting will be held in February and not in November as previously scheduled due to logistical problems. More later with the details.
5. The Parents Council is becoming involved with the National Consortium for Math and Science Academies. IMSA will host a 2-3 day conference in the spring of year 2000 for all member schools. Vice-president Lorelei Riddle will be working with Cathy

Veal and Matt Wicks of IMSA to develop a parent\*s track for this conference. David asked for one or two volunteers to work with her on this pioneering opportunity.

6. Wish list for the Parents Council

- a. Volunteers for the Phone-A-thon held Oct. 26-28.

It was requested that sensitivity be considered for those parents who do not use English as their primary language.

b. File cabinets - PA would like to store files in the storeroom but file cabinets are needed.

- c. New Coffee pot

## VI. PRINCIPAL\*S REPORT

1. Great Minds Program: It is working very well. Dr. Lederman and Dr. Jack Steinberger of Geneva, Switzerland hosted a seminar and made a presentation on the acceleration of neutrons and protons for the students.

2. Seminars are being held as part of the inquiry process on Mondays and Thursdays from 4-6pm. Notables will be involved to lead discussions on science and the history of physics.

3. Dr. Lederman will be writing a book on biographies of famous living scientists using IMSA students. This project will begin second semester. Student personal interviews will be conducted.

4. Stedman Graham will be giving the Horwitz senior lecture discussing the topic of ethics in our everyday lives on Tuesday, October 20.

5. A music performance will be held on October 24.

6. The Snowball program will be conducted on Nov. 11 involving interpersonal relationships.

7. The attrition at IMSA is better this year than last, only 3 students dropping for various reasons which is lower than previous years.

8. In Eric McLaren\*s absence, Dr. Sinner reported on the latest discipline violations. There have been 9 students reprimanded for drug and alcohol abuse. The administration is handling each case one by one. Parents and police have been notified. Additional information given to students and parents regarding these offenses would be a violation of student privacy rights. The policy for these violations is in the Student Handbook. A motion was made by Joan Winstein and seconded by Moses Harris that that \*the zero tolerance drug, alcohol, and tobacco policy at IMSA be

thoroughly discussed at the November meeting and that parents will be notified of the agenda item by inserting it into the newsletter.\* Considerable discussion took place and parents had numerous questions and comments.

Motion carried. It should also be noted that if anyone has a question regarding the current policy to refer to the Student Handbook. And if anyone has any questions involving specific data relating to the discipline policy, please submit them to Dr.

Sinner ahead of the November meeting to give him an opportunity to gather all pertinent information.

9. All Parent Council mailings should be submitted to the Principal's office by October 19th.

## VII. COMMITTEES

1. Academic Committee - Chairman Ev Prested - Last month's meeting committee was spent evaluating the agenda for this academic school year. Next month, the committee will focus on the foreign language department.

2. College and Academic Committee - John Thompson - the committee is looking for additional members if anyone is interested. Last month the committee spent time brainstorming for ideas to help the students. One idea discussed was to provide transportation to area schools for various college presentations. Various sources that are helpful to students as they begin the college application process are the Princeton Review, Newsweek (Aug. 31, 1998 issue), Fisk Guide to Colleges, and web sites for colleges and universities.

3. Student Life - Sandy Ohler- reported that weekend student activities has increased. There have been numerous trips to the movies and one to Great America. A new formatted questionnaire will be sent out this year to the students. Transportation to churches is being researched. Residential Halls are looking for parent donations for various pieces of equipment. A report was given by Joan Winstein on the Food Committee. Continual suggestions will be made to Arbor by the student reps. and parents. An inquiry on nutrition is available for any student interested.

4. Communications - Lorelei Riddle - The newsletter is being formatted by Lorna Flansburg. Many thanks goes to Lorna for providing this service as well as continually updating the PA web site. More volunteers are needed to help with the newsletter. All articles for the newsletter must be submitted to Lorelei Riddge by October 21, as the newsletter will be printed on October 22.

5. Technology - Mike Doyle - Soft ware has been purchased for the computer lab. One item for this year will be to look at different modes of communication between the student, parents, and outsiders within the IMSA network. The committee will also look at Delphi Forum. It was noted that the IRM (in room networking) needs parent approval and for 24 hour service, a definite need must be shown.

6. Treasurers Report - Stuart Cohen - Phone-A Thon will take place on campus on Oct. 26, 27 & 28. Parents are needed. Arbor is charging \$9 for anyone wanting dinner. The Parents Associaton balance as of September 30, 1998 is \$34,474.32.

After the outstanding expenses are authorized and paid, the available funds will be \$20,741.02. A motion was made by Stuart Cohen and seconded by Lorelei Riddle \*to reverse the outstanding authorizations, or in the case of negative balances to increase the authorizations, in the following IMSA Parents Fund accounts of fiscal year 1997-98 of the purpose of zeroing out the accounts prior to establishing new authorizations for fiscal year 1998-1999. Motion carried.

1. Athletic Trainer - \$164.00
2. All school picnic - \$175.00
3. Awards - music (\$36.15)
4. College Day - \$441.92
5. Parents Assoc. Administrative Exp. (\$245.44)
6. P.A. Newsletter Printing/Postage \$251.92
7. Parents Orientation \$656.16 of the \$806.16 balance
8. Parent Partners \$105.00
9. Permanent labels \$100.00
10. Phone-A-thon (\$102.80)
11. Roller Blade Competition \$150.00
12. Tribune Subscription (\$508.90)
13. Typewriter supplies \$70.75
14. Landscaping 1506 and 1507 \$1436.05

A motion was made by Stuart Cohen and seconded by Kathy Myers to reimburse IMSA related expenses (see insert). Motion carried. Expenses are as follows:

Linda Mellis	\$120.00	Joan Winstein	\$70.00
Sandy Ohler	\$30.00	Stuart Cohen	\$87.41
Betty Dietrich	\$25.00		

Discussion was made for the reimbursement of expenses made by the Regional Reps. It was noted that in the past, the regional representatives in many instances made an in-kind donation to the PA. However, the PA would also be willing to reimburse expenses. More discussion on this topic will take place at the November meeting. Supplies are available in the Development Office, and see Rita McKenna. A template is available from Stuart for PA Stationary.

7. Parent Partners - Betty Dietrich reported that Parent Partners is going well, but still in the need of 3 parents to become partners for 1504 Wing A; 1505 Wing B; and 1503 Wing B. If anyone would like to join this committee, please contact her.

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. A Funding request for an athletic trainer of \$3800.00 was passed. The motion was made by Sharen Gerlich and seconded by Moses Harris.
2. A motion was made by Stuart Cohen and seconded by Kathy Myers to reimburse Arbor in the amount of \$856.00 for ice cream and toppings at the ice cream social on

### Family Day.

3. A motion was made by Moses Harris and seconded by Sandy Ohler to purchase 2 filing cabinets the most economical way possible to be used by the Parents Association and placed in the storeroom. Motion passed.

4. A motion by Stuart Cohen and seconded by Sharen Gerlich was made to reimburse 5 parents who are interested in attending a conference on School Policy and Parent Involvement in the Schools on October 30 at Malcolm X College. The registration fee is \$20.00. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Dr. Sinner agreed to begin the \*Core Value Exercise\*, but was postponed due to the longevity of the meeting. The future day and time for this session to be announced.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Y. Berger



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