

## **IMSA Parents Association Meeting Minutes, March 11, 2000**

I. Roll Call; a quorum was present

II. Administration Reports:

A. Eric McLaren, Principal

1. The Board of Trustees Report: two policies are being proposed for clarification, (1) Student Residence Policy, which would require the same documentation as the public schools for proof of residency; (2) the Reinvitation Policy which will be stated in the Student/Parent Handbook.
2. Great Minds Program: March 22, at 3:30 pm Dr. John Conway will be presenting Knots & Tangles; Invention - Game of Life."
3. Horowitz Lecture; Seniors only, will be given on April 4 at 7:30pm by Rabbi Kushner entitled, Invisible Lines of Connection, Social Responsibility and Cowardness".
4. Students, faculty, and parents from the North Caroline School of Mathematics came to visit the campus this week. One of the areas they participated in was the Ethics and Leadership Course". We were happy to welcome one of the parents, Mrs. Teress Taxes, to our meeting.
5. The end of the quarter is this week and grades are due from the faculty on March 20. Eric is committed to getting the grades out much sooner than last time.
6. Presentation Day will be held on April 26 for Inquiry and Mentorships.

B. Bob Hernandez, Director, Student Leadership Development

1. Regarding residential life, Angie King, an RC in 03 has been offered the position of Admissions Counselor. To avoid disruption, Ms. King will be fulfilling a dual role as RC along with her newly appointment in the Admissions office.
2. Three IMSA administrators, Steve Zant, Bob Hernandez, and Amy Burnett will be attending the Conference for Employment in Oshkosh, WI. for the purpose of recruiting 8 new RC's for next year. Bob noted the turnover for RC's for next year is less than in previous years.
3. Bob will also be attending for the purpose of recruitment of personnel the ACPA (American College Personnel Association) conference this Spring.
4. There is a possibility of switching 02 and 03, one to a boys dorm and the other to a girls dorm for the purpose of equalizing the number of boy and girl spaces. This would also open up a vacant suite for the purpose of housing dignitaries when the need arises.
5. Student Activities are posted on the web and all parents are encouraged to review them and urge your student to participate.

6. It should be noted that the Halls close at 5:00 pm and all students who are not picked up by this time will be transferred to 01. The dorms will reopen at 3:00 pm on Sunday.

### III. Officer Reports:

A. Lorelei Riddle, President: report deferred to Old Business

B. Dennis Delfert, Vice President:

1. The video conferencing did not happen due to the lack of interest and logistics. This idea will resurface again next year.
2. There will be one more newsletter for next year, and for all those who have procrastinated during the year, you are urged to send in your thoughts, ideas, and comments. The time is short as the mailing will be sent during the week of March 20.
3. Wayne Schneidman was deeply thanked for setting up the Activities Bulletin Board on the Web. This is a great service to the entire IMSA community. The address for this is: [www.imsa.edu/team/sld](http://www.imsa.edu/team/sld)
4. Dennis attended the Great Minds Program on "Frontiers and Education" and reported it was excellent. The lecture focused on technology and its impact on education.

D. David Kinney, Treasurer (see report)

The PhoneATHon raised in an excess of \$46,000 which was \$9-10,000 more than last year. A very successful event it was and we thank very much Mary Beth and Steve Lauricella for serving as Chairpersons. It was suggested that all parent donors receive a personalized thank you.

### IV. Committee Reports:

A. Academic Committee - Mae Lynn Morley

1. The February meeting had an open forum and several items were discussed: (a) The descriptions of the course offerings should include comparisons with courses offered in the public schools; (b) new courses being developed will be shared with the Academic Committee; (c) it is the policy of IMSA not to allow students to take courses off campus during the academic year.
2. The March meeting focused on faculty qualifications and evaluations.
3. A new science curriculum for sophomores will be offered next year.

B. Committee on Academic Counseling - Kristie Polk

1. Before the next PAC meeting on April 15 at 9:00 a video will be shown from U.S. News and World Report that discusses the process of college visits. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be signs posted at the front door giving the room where the video will be shown.
2. College Fair will be held on April 29 from 9:00 - 12:00pm. This year's fair will be

located in the large and small gyms. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Gail Peck or John Thompson if you are available.

C. Parent Fund Committee - no report.

D. Student Life - Sandy Ohler

1. Off campus activities have been poorly attended, and many were canceled due to lack of participation. Students have difficulty deciding ahead of time if they want to attend all day, off-campus activities. This is challenging to Amy Burnett when making arrangements and the purchasing of tickets. Next year more on- campus activities will be planned.

2. The Parent to Parent Handbook is being revised and updated to include maps of the area, places to stay, restaurants, etc. Region 9 has alot of information on their web site. Sandy Ohler is putting together the new handbook and all articles regarding the committees. If you are a Committee Chairperson, you should send to her your report by the end of April to enable the handbook to be completed on time.

E. Food Committee - The students will have a forum with Arbor on March 15. All are encouraged to participate. Tammie Harding continues to with the Administration to develop a new contract for next year.

F. Technology - Wayne Schneidman and Mike Doyle

1. Matt Wicks is moving forward with the purchasing of 7 new computers for the dorms.

2. Additional ideas are being studied to get information out to the parents i.e. the web, listserv, etc.

3. Everyone is encouraged to use the activities Bulletin Board on the web. Please contact Wayne Schneidman if you have any event that might be of interest to the parents and to the students.

4. There is an interest in having the List Serve be changed to include all parents who have submitted their email address to the academy instead of the present situation which is on a subscription basis only. Those who wish not to participate can remove their names. A motion will be made under Old Business.

G. Student Council - Donielle Newell

1. March 15 - An open forum regarding Arbor will take place.

2. March 16 - RC Appreciation Day - it is a surprise

3. April 12 - Wednesday night programming will focus on student safety. The local police will come and talk to the students and a poster contest will be held.

## V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Lorelei Riddle Keltner and David Kinney spoke of their experience at the NCSSSMST (National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Math, Science, and Technology) which was held on March 2, 3, & 4. There were 61 schools represented, and IMSA is regarded

as the Harvard” of the high schools. David and Lorelei attended numerous lectures and meetings. (see report in newsletter). In addition, there are videos of the three principle speakers which Lorelei purchased for the PAC if anyone is interested. The three principle speakers at the conference were Robert Galvin, chairman of Motorola, Inc., Dr. Paul Sereno, Univeristy of Chicago, and Benjamin Zander, Conductor of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra. In addition to Lorelei's and David's learning experiences regarding education, Lorelei was able to converse with other parents from the different academies regarding their PACs, and she encouraged our PAC to become more innovative in our approach as is the mandate of IMSA. It was very helpful to hear ideas from other PAC's.

#### B. Nominations and the Slate of Officers:

1. The Nominating Committee consists of Cathy Barnes, Helen Newell, and Lorelei Riddle. The committee agreed to present the nominees to the PAC. The slate presently is incomplete but is as follows:

President: David Kinney  
Vice President: Jana Fitting  
Secretary: Pam Gast  
Treasurer: vacant  
Downstate Coordinator: Cathy Barnes  
Metro-Coordinator: vacant

Nominations were taken from the Floor, but there were none. The nominating committee will continue to complete the officer slate this month and will be posted on the PAC web site. A vote will be taken at the April or May meeting.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes:

November minutes: Approved  
January minutes: Approved  
February minutes: Approved with corrections

3. A motion was made by Sandy Ohler to replace additional lights in the dorm rooms at a cost of \$9000.00. Seconded by Marilyn Thompson. Motion failed.

4. A motion was made to accept the 2000-2001 PAC Calendar by Cathy Null, and seconded by Pam Gast. The original motion was amended to change the downstate meeting (outside the metro area) from February to November. Motion passed.

5. A motion was made to change the May meeting in year 2001 to May 12 which is Prom which would be helpful to the downstate parents.

6. A motion was made to add parent email addresses that are given to the administration at the beginning of the year to List Serve. It will be possible to unsubscribe if a parent is not interested in being on the List Serve. Motion was made by Wayne Schneidman, and seconded by John Thompson. Motion carried.

#### VI. NEW BUSINESS:

1. A date for the Strategic Planning Meeting for the new Executive Committee and Regional Reps. was discussed and one possible date being considered is June 25 from 9-1.

2. It should be noted that PAC volunteers are needed for navigation and move-in Sophomore Day.
3. The question was raised as to the policy of non-IMSA staff or non students being allowed to stay in the new suites being renovated for dignitaries. Discussion was also held regarding the possibility of parents being able to use these suites as well.
4. The annual picnic for students, staff, and faculty was mentioned and whether or not it was going to take place this year. A decision has not yet been finalized, but if anyone is willing to help with the picnic, your participation is welcomed.
5. A parent from the North Carolina Math and Science Academy was present and spoke several minutes to our PAC. She emphasized the need to stay focused and committed to the future and not just to survive from year to year.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Y. Berger, Secretary

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