

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES
August 25, 2001

President Jana Fitting called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m. Jana welcomed and thanked everyone for coming. Jana explained that Don Cooper (Treasurer) was unable to attend due to a conflict in dates and Fred Hines (Vice-President) was unable to attend due to a death in the family. Attendance was taken.

Jana gave us a brief overview of the agenda for the day. The minutes from the May 12 meeting will be held until the September meeting. Jana reminded everyone to check the web for the minutes.

Reports from the IMSA Administration

Principal Eric McLaren stated he is looking forward to a good productive year. He reported the following:

- ACT results are not out yet but IMSA will rank in the top three nationwide.
- One hundred and fifty two students took the AP calculus test. One hundred and ten scored a five. The average was 4.6.
- Six new faculty members have joined IMSA: four English teachers and two Social teachers.
- Dr. David Adler is the new Director of Curriculum. IMSA is very excited to have him on board. It took two years to fill this position.
- The Synergy program will focus on academic integrity. It will deal with the questions “What is plagiarism?” and “What is collaborative?” IMSA does not have a problem with academic plagiarism.
- IMSA had a booth at the State Fair this year. It seems more people do not know about IMSA than do. The State Fair is a significant investment.
- Family (Parent) Day will be Sept. 15. The parents will visit classes from the C& D day schedule.

Bob Hernandez from Student Life reported that overall move-in day and registration was a great success. He reported the following:

- There are two changes in the handbook. Four unexcused absences, student with draws with a failing grade. Three unexcused tardies is equal to one unexcused absence.
- Residential Life is excited about the seven new RC's. This new staff brings a lot of experience.
- Any questions about Student Life should be directed to Bob or Co-Chairmen of Student Life Jeri Hagiwara and Penny Newton.
- The Friday Student Union schedule is in the students' handbooks.

Jim Gerry from Technology (CNS) reported:

- The streaming video server is up and running. This is the first year.
- The first video on the web site is “ How to install a networking card” made by a group of work students.
- The search engine, the network, and the calendar have been upgraded.
- There is a big project to revamp the entire web site. IMSA will partner with IBM.
- The work service program has been revamped. This year it will be thirty students (ten upperclassmen and twenty sophomores). If a student is interested in technology for work service, CNS will train them.
- Parents are allowed to have IMSA accounts. Parents must fill out two forms from the web site: Net Honor Code and Account Request Form.

Vice President's Report: Report will be held until September 15 meeting.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Ann Carpenter asked for Regional Representatives to forward their phone trees to her. She also asked any Regional Reps that had questions or needed lists and forms to contact her.

Treasurer's Report: Report will be held until September 15 meeting.

Committee Reports

Academic Committee: Chairman Betty Kay reported that changes have been made in advanced physics and advanced chemistry to make them more aligned with the AP exams. The committee has also worked on what courses will best prepare students for AP exams and college placement. Betty Kay thanked the staff and administration for responding.

College & Academic Counseling (CAC): Jana Fitting reported for Chairman Barbara Decker. CAC will have a college counselor at each PAC meeting to offer tips and suggestions. Hopefully, the college counselor will be available after the PAC meeting to meet with parents. CAC would like to compile a file of college material and summer school programs gathered from IMSA families.

Student Life: Co-Chairman Jeri Hagiwara distributed a Student Life Committee 2000-2001 Overview. In 2001-2002, there are sixteen Friday Fests scheduled for the Student Union. Parents have been very supportive. There will be a mailing requesting donations for the Student Union. There will be a line item in the budget for Student Union.

Senior Dinner: The site has been selected. The contracts signed. A letter was sent to the senior parents this summer. The Senior Dinner is all set to go.

Parent Partners: Lisa MacDonald encouraged parents to become Parent Partners. Many of the wings do not have a Parent Partner yet. As a Parent Partner, you are a liaison between the parents in the wing and the RC. Steve Zant has requested that Parent Partners and the RC talk twice a month. There was discussion about how the collection of money is handled. The easiest was is for parents to designate a donation for a wing. The RC can get reimbursed in 2-3 days.

Technology Committee: Chairman William Blanchard read the mission statement of the committee. He would welcome anyone that wants to join. The rest of the report will be held until the Sept. 15 meeting.

Communications Committee: Jana said the committee is looking for a Chairman. The web site needs to be redesigned and the handbook needs to be updated. Any articles for the newsletter, Jana needs them by Monday, August 27. The newsletter will be mailed Friday, August 31.

Fundraising Committee: Chairman Cheryl Widman asked, "How can we do a better job raising money?" Last year PAC did not a phone-a-thon to raise money. PAC needs cash and must continue its fundraising. If someone has any ideas, please call Cheryl at her toll free number ( 877-456-2514) Monday-Friday.

Old Business: No old business

New Business

Jana said we will vote on the Principal Discretionary Account of \$500 for student needs and Student Union Account of \$3000 for Friday nights at the September 15 PAC meeting. These will be line items in the budget.

Jana introduced a By-law change proposal as follows: "Make metro and downstate coordinators independent positions on the board, rather than hold position and a Rep. Position too." This is be voted on at the

September 15 PAC meeting.

Announcements

- September 15th, Family Day is really Parent Day. Parents will attend a shortened version of C and D day classes. Each class is twenty minutes.
- Volunteers are needed to staff the ticket table for the Barbeque from 12:15-2:00.
- Sign up early for your Barbeque reservations. Look for the flyer in the mail. Plan to eat with your student's wing.
- Stephanie Yeh, Managing Editor for ACRONYM, encouraged parents to subscribe to the student newspaper ACRONYM. There will be 7 issues this year. Mr. Herndandez highly recommended ACRONYM.

Adjournment

Scott McFarland moved the meeting be adjourned. Cathy Null seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Carpenter, PAC Secretary

posted September 6, 2001

[Return to IMSA main page](#) | [Return to Parents Association Page](#)