

## IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2002

President Jana Fitting called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. Roll call was taken. There was a quorum. Jana requested that the minutes of the March 16 meeting be approved. Mary Ganiere had one correction for those minutes – the Region 1 Junior Rep. next year will be Caroline Pogue and she (Mary Ganiere) will be the alternate. Yaw Oforu moved for approval of the corrected minutes and Jeri Hagiwara seconded. Motion passed.

### **President's Report**

Jana has received a letter of resignation from VP Fred Hines, which she accepted with regrets. She appointed Jeri Hagiwara as interim VP for the remainder of the 2001-02 year. Jeri will be set up with the signing privileges for check purposes.

Junior and Senior reps should start planning their regional summer picnics. At the May meeting, the reps will describe what their region has done in the past to assist newer reps in preparing for the picnics. It is important to invite the families of new 2002-03 sophomores to the picnics. Park reservations should be made as soon as possible since summer dates fill up quickly. Lists of the new 2002-03 sophomores will be sent to the representatives as soon as they are available.

April is Volunteer Month. Jana urged parents to fill out the PAC survey form so that we can get a ballpark figure on number of volunteer hours and present it to the IMSA Board of Trustees at their May meeting.

Jana has a conflict for next month's meeting and either Jeri Hagiwara or Don Cooper will preside at the May meeting. Jana will provide a written year end report to the PAC for distribution at that meeting.

### **Vice President's Report**

No report.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Don Cooper reported that there was not much activity for the month ending March 31, although he did note that the Coupon Day fundraiser had raised \$400. He submitted a formal Budget Report which reflected that there were \$3,090.56 in available funds. Don reported that the PAC is in "good shape" to pay this year's bills.

### **Secretary's Report**

Don Driscoll substituted for Ann Carpenter for this meeting. He asked that Regional Reps and Committee Chairs return their PAC binders at this meeting or the May meeting so that they could be updated over the summer and passed out to the 2002-03 Regional Reps and Committee Chairs.

Don has received about 40 responses to the PAC survey thus far and is collating the responses. Prior to the May meeting, he will email the survey results to the PAC members, Eric McLaren and Bob Hernandez so that the results could be discussed at that meeting.

### **IMSA Administration Comments**

Eric McLaren reported that graduation announcements can be ordered from Dotty Krett. Senior caps and gowns will be distributed on May 22. Anyone needing handicapped assistance should contact Eric so he can

make the proper arrangements.

Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> is Presentation Day for the students. If anyone can't make it, Eric urged them to walk around the building and review the many posters that reflect the students' academic opportunities and achievements.

Advanced Placement exams start May 6 and run for two weeks. The last opportunity to cancel those exams without incurring a heavy fee is coming up fast so students should cancel immediately if they are not going to take exams that they had previously applied for.

Juniors took advantage of the opportunity to submit their requests for next year's academic schedule through the computer system, which resulted in a higher percentage receiving their first choices.

Eric sent out a Parent Satisfaction survey two weeks ago. This is the most comprehensive survey that IMSA has sent out. He has received about 150 responses and will send out a postcard reminder to try to achieve a 100% response rate.

The Illinois Senate will likely resolve its budget problems by reducing education budget. IMSA's 2002-03 budget has already been set at \$567,000 less than the 2001-02 budget, but it is possible that IMSA's budget will be cut even further.

Bob Hernandez explained the travel reimbursement form and stated that reimbursement would not be received until December. Further, in light of state budget concerns, it's possible that the reimbursements may be reduced this year.

Bob asked parents (particularly those of senior students) to stress to their students not to skip classes or they may not graduate. Further, there are 36 students who have not submitted their work service hours. There are also five students who have completed zero work service hours. Bob stressed that will not graduate unless the required work service hours are completed. He urged that students complete the requirements before senior year so it is not a concern during their final year.

Finally, parents should remind their students that theft incidents are always on the rise during the last few weeks of the school year. Students should take care to keep their valuables locked up, particularly laptops, calculators, palmpilots, etc.

### **Student Council Report**

Brittany Andres reported that Executive Board elections are this week and that Junior/Senior elections are next week. Student Life is hosting Clash of the Wings this week. Reports on the Quality of Life survey will be submitted at the May meeting. Latin and Advanced Latin classes have commenced.

### **Academic Committee**

Virginia Hess reported that some juniors are interested in English and Social Science electives while taking junior English courses. Eric McLaren explained that the administration is establishing a procedure to assess whether particular students are ready to take those concurrent courses.

Virginia also stated that students are interested in having more fine arts courses offered (i.e., pottery, ceramics, photography), but it is unlikely that new courses could be added in light of the state budget cuts. Virginia suggested that perhaps interested parents could offer classes. Eric suggested that parents could offer an intersession for a week on a particular program. There is some funding available for supplies. Jana Fitting

stated that cable TV offers free classes in television and that there are also some active art leagues in the Aurora area. She will provide addresses and phone numbers to the Academic Committee.

### **College & Academic Counseling**

No report.

### **Communications**

Mattie Kang reported that the deadline is May 1 for information to be posted in next newsletter, which will hopefully be mailed out on May 5.

### **Parent Fund**

Cheryl Wildman announced that the phone-a-thon will be held on both April 29 (6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.) and May 4 (10 a.m. to 12 p.m.). It will be administered onsite at IMSA and she passed around the sign-up sheet for additional volunteers. Cheryl also thanked parents for their contributions to date on all of the fund-raising activities.

### **Ad Hoc Fund-Raising Task Force**

Sandy Prolman distributed a survey of five options for the PAC fund raising efforts which outlined both the positive and negative consequences of each option. This issue will be voted at the May meeting as Old Business.

### **Student Life**

Penny Newton reported that the Senior Trip will be to Great America in May. The Fitness Center equipment (7 new pieces) has been ordered and should be here prior to the May PAC meeting so that representatives can see it at that time.

She noted that next week will be the last Student Union for the year. She reminded that parents should submit receipts for Union expenses to Don Cooper by the end of May. Several thousands of dollars were contributed over the past year.

Penny stated that Mary Ganiere will be co-chair of Parent Partners but another co-chair is still needed. Janelle Cornell will continue as head of the Food Committee. Gordon Stiefel will also assist on the Food Committee next year.

She also noted that, in light of the upcoming Prom, parents may need to consider the curfew laws in their communities to ensure their students are not in violation of those laws.

Penny also thanked Bob Hernandez for setting up a Student Work Center as a secure area with available computers, printers, etc.

Mary Ganiere has made a comprehensive list of churches and temples in the Aurora area that can provide religious services to IMSA students. This will be made available to parents at Navigation.

Jeri Hagiwara reported that they have received 550 RSVPs for Senior Dinner. All future responses will be placed on the waiting list. She also noted that Senior Dinner chair position for next year remains open.

### **Technology**

William Blanchard reported that the camera for the internet streaming broke immediately prior to the meeting, but they would continue with an audio presentation of the meeting. He also stated that Pierre Maloka would be the new Technology committee chair next year.

Jim Gerry reported that the internet connection will no longer be free but the exact charge is still being determined. Depending on the size of the charge, one possibility is to charge students for internet access in their rooms.

Jim warned that students purchasing new computers should stay away from Microsoft Home XP software due to both legal and technical issues in being connected to the IMSA system. Windows 2000 and Windows NT are both suitable alternatives.

IMSA was going to purchase Power School software to enable their Student Information System (e.g., attendance, grades), which would be web-based and accessible to parents. However, that software will not be available until at least next fall. If the software provider's schedule keeps getting delayed, they will look at alternative systems.

### **Old Business**

Jana Fitting reported that the PAC meeting dates for 2002-03 has been approved. Decisions on the downstate meeting date and whether to have a retreat meeting prior to the school year will be deferred until next meeting.

### **New Business**

Jana also reported that it will be necessary to appropriate funds for the 2003 Senior Dinner in order to reserve a venue for May, 2003. The decision on the amount of that appropriation will be made at the next meeting. Jana reported that the CAC and Parent Fund committee chair positions remain open. The following committee chair positions have been filled:

Academic – Virginia Hess  
Communications – Mattie Kang  
Student Life – Ann Carpenter and Kay Landers  
Technology -- Pierre Maloka

An IMSA student organization is sponsoring a Battle of the Bands fundraiser on Tuesday to raise money for 4-year-old girl with cystic fibrosis in order to have her name placed on a waiting list for a double transplant. They are looking for two more parent volunteers to supervise during Tuesday's event. Virginia Hess and Ann Bongen kindly volunteered for that duty.

Teacher Appreciation Week is the week of May 5-9. Jana asked for volunteers to bring treats or bagels/donuts to recognize the teachers' efforts. Jana and Sandy Prolman will coordinate that activity.

### **Parent Forums**

No report.

### **Announcements**

The next PAC meeting will start at 10 a.m. on May 11. Penny Newton moved the meeting be adjourned. Jeri Hagiwara seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Don Driscoll  
2002-03 PAC Secretary