

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES  
November 16, 2002

President Jeri Hagiwara called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. at University High School in Urbana, IL. Roll call was taken but there was not a quorum. Jeri requested that approval of the October minutes be moved to the December meeting.

**President's Report**

Jeri thanked Cathy Barnes for coordinating this annual meeting with University High School. She also thanked Eric McLaren, Bob Hernandez and Urvi Purohit (Student Council President) for attending this meeting and coordinating the bus ride for interested students from IMSA.

Jeri reported that parents responded enthusiastically to the Phone-A-Thon. Approximately half of the parents were contacted directly and VM messages were left for the remainder. She thanked the volunteers for making the Phone-A-Thon a success.

Jeri pointed out there will be special programs either before or after the next three PAC Meetings:

Before the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Executive Council will sit in on the Technology and Academic Committees. She noted that the Academic meeting will focus on the math curriculum. After the December meeting, Eric will lead a tour of the Fitness Center which has been outfitted with equipment donated by PAC over the years. Eric advised that parents should dress in preparation for a moderate workout.

After the January PAC meeting, IMSA will provide parents with indepth information regarding the Inquiry program. After the February meeting, the Reference Librarian and Archivist will lead the PAC on a tour of the Information Resource Center

**Vice President's Report**

Cathy Barnes is seeking volunteers for the IMSA informational meetings around the state from November through January. She distributed a list of the meeting dates and sites. Anyone interested should contact Kim Fassbinder at [Fassy@aol.com](mailto:Fassy@aol.com) or Cathy at [rgbarnes1@aol.com](mailto:rgbarnes1@aol.com)

The dates and sites of the IMSA informational meetings are:

Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> Quincy, Quincy Junior High 6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Moline, Woodrow Wilson Middle School 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, November 20 Macomb, Macomb Jr-Sr. High 7:00 P.M.

Monday, December 2 Palatine, Jane Adams Elem. School 7:00 P.M.

Thursday, December 5 Chicago Hts., Prairie State College 6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, December 11, Effingham, Effingham Jr. High 7:00 P.M.

Thursday, December 12, Urbana, the forum at Carle 6:00 P.M.

Monday, December 16, Chicago, DePaul University/Egan Urban Center 7:00 P.M.

Monday, January 6, Springfield, SIU School of Medicine 6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, January 7, Normal, Chiddix Junior High 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, January 8 Peoria, Washington School, 7:00 P.M.

Thursday, January 9, Oglesby, Illinois Valley Comm. college 7:00 P.M.

Thursday, January 16 Chicago, Beverly Branch Library 7:00 P.M.

**Treasurer's Report**

Navreet Kang reported that we have \$3,404 in the bank account. If anyone has any bills for reimbursement, they should be turned into Navreet.

### **IMSA Administration Comments**

Eric McLaren reported that:

- 1) The In-Room Networking session after the October PAC meeting helped inform the direction that IMSA will go on this issue. The feedback at the meeting was in favor of eliminating the 24-hour IRN in the future. Seniors are currently turning in their permission slips for 24-hour access.
- 2) The administration is currently finalizing intersession assignments and will confirm assignments with teachers this week. Students will have their intersession assignments before Thanksgiving. In the past, 80% to 90% of students have received their 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> choice. Students who got their 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> choices last year will have higher priority this year.
- 3) The Committee on Personalized Learning Plans is working to identify and analyze the type of advice and counsel the students get over their three years at IMSA. Information gaps to students and parents are being identified and work will be done to eliminate or reduce those gaps. PAC's Academic Committee was invited to attend so that parents could also participate in the Committee's work.
- 4) There was a 3-day seminar on cognition and assessment of student learning facilitated by Dr. Pellegrino of University of Illinois (Chicago) held on November 6-8. The second part of that seminar will be held in late January.

Bob Hernandez reported that the Senior Class Club has turned in requests for senior class residential privileges for second semester. He has had the first meeting with seniors regarding those requests and will finalize the approved privileges to send out to parents. Examples are seniors would be able to visit other halls after in-room check for a certain amount of time, relaxed curfews, etc. Parents can review and approve some or all of the privileges for their individual students.

March 14<sup>th</sup> (Friday) will be the teacher recognition day for sophomores. Sophomore parents should encourage their students to nominate an educator for recognition. Who helped get them interested in education and motivated in learning?

Bob reminded everyone that IMSA will be closed the weekend of January 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> due to the state budget cuts. Classes will end that Friday at 12:45 p.m. and halls will close at at 5 p.m. The halls will reopen on Monday at 3 p.m.

Bob noted that the list of unexcused absences is growing. Parents need to remind their students to attend class and that four unexcused absences means that the student is removed from the class with a grade of WF ("withdraw failing") on the transcript."

### **Student Council Report**

Urvi Purohit stated that the mess left in the cafeteria at meals is not getting better, including waste of food and mangled utensils. Students need to take responsibility for the cafeteria and be mindful that waste costs Arbor and IMSA money. The Student Council has been given the charge to improve the situation as well as propose consequences.

Student Council is working on getting a bulletin board for newspaper headlines right outside Arbor, as well as to inform students of upcoming club events at IMSA. Club wall has been moved to a more prominent location (by elevator shaft by U-bench) with more space for club notices.

Students are stating that the Council is more helpful this year and has been providing more feedback on issues

that they would like the Council to address. This included distributing petition forms in the dorms for written feedback and to be more accessible to the students. Toward this end, Student Council will soon have its own email address.

Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> will be IMSA Beautification Day. Students will plant bulbs and clean up garbage for community service hours.

### **Student Life**

Ann Carpenter reported that she is working with Student Council to have the pool open for Friday nights.

PAC will open up the Student Union for a baked potato bar and Starbucks coffee on 12/17 from 8 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. on a “to go” basis so students can study while they’re eating. The Student Life Committee is seeking volunteers (to start at 7:30) and cash donations from parents. Holiday baked goodies are also welcome.

### **Announcements**

The next PAC meeting is at IMSA, 10 am on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Don Driscoll  
PAC Secretary