

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES September 13, 2003

President Cathy Barnes called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. Roll call was taken. There was a quorum. Approximately 50 parents in addition to the PAC members attended the meeting.

President's Report

Cathy Barnes introduced herself, the members of the Executive Committee and the committee chairpersons. She invited parents to send her emails with questions or requests to participate in PAC activities.

Kay Landers pointed out the May minutes were incorrect to the extent that they had suggested the Student Life Committee had been over budget. With that correction noted, Kim Fassbinder moved for approval of May minutes. Yaw Ofosu seconded the motion and the corrected May minutes were approved by general vote.

Vice President's Report

Lorna Ruddy reported that IMSA's representation at the state fair had been a great success. This was due 25 parent volunteers, 8 alumni parents, 10 alumni and 8 current student volunteers. The IMSA group distributed 5000 souvenir badges or approximately one per minute.

She stated that she is now seeking volunteers for two VIP days (11/23/03 and 1/31/04) and for 20 informational meetings throughout the state for prospective students. The dates and times of those informational meetings have not yet been set.

Lorna also announced that she and Sandy Hammon (Chair, Fundraising) will be seeking volunteers for the Phoneathon in October.

Secretary's Report

Don Driscoll reported that the PAC was seeking representatives for several open regional positions and encouraged parents to volunteer. The open representative positions are Region 1 senior, Region 3 sophomore and senior, Region 8 sophomore, and Region 10 sophomore or junior.

IMSA Administration Comments

Principal Eric McLaren gave a brief overview of the Parents Day schedule, which primarily is an opportunity for parents to meet the teachers and get a sense of the courses being taught to their students. Every wing would thereafter have a potluck lunch. After lunch, the College and Academic Counseling team would hold meetings for the parents.

He also noted that Rob Flot would be hosting a reception at 8:30 a.m. for African American and Latino students and parents.

Principal McLaren also noted that the Great Minds Community Lecture program would host renowned pianist George Winston on September 23rd. Mr. Winston will hold a workshop for 50 students in the afternoon and a concert in the evening.

The Great Minds program will then host astronaut Captain Eugene Cernan to discuss "Reflections on Apollo" on October 1st at 1 p.m.. On October 9th, Robert F. Kennedy will speak on "Our Environmental Destiny" at 7 p.m.

Bob Hernandez reported that Nancy Xu was 1st runnerup for Miss Illinois. Both Miss Illinois and Nancy will go on to the Miss Teen USA competition.

Bob urged the parents to check the IMSA website on a regular basis for updates on current events, upcoming activities and results of sport competitions. Finally, he asked parents to remind their students that cellphones are not allowed in the classroom and to attend classes promptly to avoid unexcused tardies/absences.

David Abler (Director of Curriculum and Assessment) informed the parents that IMSA has received the outside auditors' reports which assessed the current math and science courses. The staff is developing action plans in response to those

reports. He also reported that IMSA has been recently talking to the Director of Telescience at the Center for Microscopy and Imaging in San Diego. They are working on providing IMSA students with the ability to access and utilize the electron microscope online. More information on this project will be forthcoming as the year progresses.

Jim Gerry encouraged parents who are interested in technology to join the Technology Committee. He reported on the following issues:

- 1) Due to viruses residing in students computers upon their return from summer break, the process of providing access to IRN is slower in comparison to last year. Approximately 275 students are currently connected to IRN, as opposed to about 325 at this time last year.
- 2) The IMSA Board approved the purchase of an Enterprise Resource Planning system. This will be an integrated system to replace the disparate admissions, accountings, student info, and advancement systems. Hopefully, it will ready for use by the time of winter registration for next semester.
- 3) IMSA is in the process of installing a web management system. IMSA representatives are meeting with a consultant and will then seek vendors to bid on implementing the system. The rollout goal is 30 to 45 days. He noted that the new website will encompass the new kaleidoscope theme.
- 4) He is recommending Internet II access for better connectivity. This would also assist in implementing the Telescience project.

Dr. Stephanie Pace Marshall welcomed the parents to this 18th IMSA year. She encouraged the parents to join in PAC events to assist in the growth and development of IMSA as it prepares to enter its third decade.

Student Council Report

President Nisha Wadhanwi and VP Brittany Andersen informed the parents that there were 75 participating organizations at Club Fair last week. The new Homecoming week is 9/29 thru 10/4 and the theme is to recreate Bourbon Street for the outside festivities. The requested that the parents donate any large appliance boxes if those boxes were available.

The Student Council is sponsoring a trip to Chicago every third Wednesday of the month.

Student Council elections will take place the week after Homecoming.

Announcements

The next PAC meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on October 18th at IMSA.

Royce Heaney moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jan Sharpless seconded the motion and the motion passed by general acclamation. Cathy Barnes then adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by,
Don Driscoll and Naomi Knappenberger
PAC Co-Secretaries