

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2003

President Cathy Barnes called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Roll call was taken. There was a quorum. Jan Siemens moved for approval of the October minutes. Janet Lumsden seconded. Motion passed.

IMSA Administration Comments

Principal Eric McLaren reported on the following issues:

- 1) Final Exam Week Schedule – The class schedule for Monday and Tuesday will be shortened to allow students more time to prepare for exams. The request for this change to the schedule came from Student Council. No inter-visitation or off-campus sign-outs will be allowed until after 4:30, since the additional time is to be used to finish work and meet with teachers. Exams are scheduled for Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and times are posted on the Student Life web page. Students may check out of the halls after their last exam.
- 2) Vans – The bus transportation budget was cut this year, so the vans have been used to transport teams. This has limited the ability of the RCs to transport students to other activities. One of the vans was involved in an accident (no injuries) in the Fall and totaled. IMSA has been authorized by the state to replace it. It will be replaced with a mini-bus type of vehicle, which is safer though more expensive. Eventually all the vans will be replaced with safer vehicles of this type.
- 3) Lab Renovation —The south side of B wing will be renovated with a grant received last year. Work will begin December 22 with the erection of a barrier wall, demolition, and asbestos abatement occurring over winter break. The renovation will result in 3 labs, 1 prep room and 4 classrooms by January 05. Eric has a drawing and he will be sending out information to parents soon.
- 4) Mercury Spill – A notice was sent to all parents about the occurrence of a very small mercury spill. There was a thorough clean up of the area where this occurred.
- 5) Strategic Planning —Eric will do a brief presentation on IMSA's three year strategic plan after the January meeting.

Bob Hernandez reported on the following topics:

- 1) Student Union —The tables in the Student Union have been resurfaced with ceramic tile.
- 2) Flu Shots – Several parents have called in regard to flu shots and have been referred to their personal physicians. The shots are not recommended for healthy adolescents, a low risk group. There have been 6 cases of flu at IMSA.
- 3) Recognition Day—Sophomore parents are reminded that the forms for the program are due at the end of January. The program, which recognizes outstanding teachers, is scheduled for March 19, 12:30-3:30.
- 4) Winter Break—Residence halls will close at 5PM Friday. Buses are scheduled to leave at 1:30, so students need to be on time.
- 5) SBC—In response to a question from a parent, Bob will check with SBC to determine if calls to St. Charles, Geneva and Batavia are still considered local calls or if students will be charged for calls to those areas.

Gretchen Stauder reported the following:

- 1) College Applications—1600 college applications have been processed to date.
- 2) Parent Day—The event this year was the best turnout ever.
- 3) Spring Schedules—These will be mailed to parents. PSAT scores for juniors will be included in the mailing.
- 4) Financial Aid—Information packages will be mailed out.
- 5) Course Selection—Students will be counseled mid-February for 2004-2005 course selection. Juniors will also receive information about the college application process.

David Abler reported:

- 1) National Center for Microscopy and Imaging -- IMSA tested the connection with the National Center in San Diego. This connection allows students to control an electron microscope remotely from a dedicated

computer in the Grainger lab. They can observe and participate in ongoing experimental work or work on projects of their own design.

2) New Courses—Proposals for changes to the curriculum have been processed. New courses for next year include Science, Society and the Future, Applied Engineering, Music Theory, Symphonic Band, Literary Explorations I & II, and a new interdisciplinary approach for Scientific Inquiries and American Studies.

Student Council Report

Rachel Parrish reported that the Clash of the Halls competition will take place February 2-6. This will include a pep rally and a mixer. There will be a Pack the House the following week at the basketball game. Activities will include a chili supper and competitions at half-time.

Student Council is selling bricks in the Student Union for \$10 to support Student Union needs.

Hussein Bhikapurwala reported that Student Council is conducting door to door PR by visiting the halls and asking students to identify needs that should be addressed by Student Council. Installation of an ATM and addressing the CNS/IRN problems are considered priorities.

A course evaluation guide, based on the Johns Hopkins guide, has been developed to help students in the selection of courses. It will be reviewed by the teachers and administration and then posted on the CAC web page.

Fund Raising

Sandy Hamman conveyed Cathy Veal's thanks for the great response to the annual fundraising drive. Cathy will share information on the drive at the next meeting.

President's Report

Cathy Barnes stated that the next meeting will be January 24 at IMSA. There will be an executive council meeting at 9 a.m., with a general meeting to follow at 10 a.m.

Vice President's Report

Lorna Ruddy reported that the November 23 VIP day went well. The next VIP Day is January 31st and Lorna is seeking more parent volunteers.

Treasurer's Report

Susan Larsen Flannery presented the budget for 2003-04. Jan Siemens moved for approval of the budget. Jan Sharpless seconded. The motion was passed.

Downstate Coordinator

Jan Siemens reported that there was not a quorum at the downstate meeting so an informational meeting was held. Two former IMSA students, who are now in the Veterinary Medicine program at the University of Illinois, spoke to the parents about their experiences.

Metro Coordinator

Kim Fassbinder reported that new vending contracts are in process and that new machines will be installed after Winter Break.

Student Life

Parent Partners—All RC gift certificates are due by December 18.

Friday Fests—The next event is Finals Fest. Ruth asked for and got volunteers through email but she can always use more hands and food. She also needs volunteers for events in the new year. The first event will be February 1—Superbowl Sunday, with 7 other events scheduled to follow.

Senior Banquet

A theme has been chosen. Senior photos are being scanned.

Communications

Susan Marshall reported that there will not be a January newsletter.

Technology

Pierre Maloka reported that there are ongoing problems with CNS/IRN but the school is working to resolve these.

Announcements

The next general meeting is January 24 at 10 AM. Sophomores are to provide snacks. The Student Life Committee will meet at 9 AM. The Academic Committee will meet at 11:30 in the Pit. The Senior Banquet Committee will meet at 11.

Jan Siemens moved to adjourn the meeting. Patrice Onyiego seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

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