

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES  
November 6, 2004 (Approved 12/04/04)

Vice President Mitch Roth called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. Roll call was taken. There was not a quorum present.

**IMSA Administration Comments**

Principal Eric McLaren welcomed the parents to the annual downstate meeting. He distributed a draft version of the Parent-Student Directory and asked that parents send back any corrections or changes. A "final" copy will be given to each student to bring home at the Thanksgiving break.

IRN was shut down due to a virus attack but all halls are now up and running again. 86% of juniors and seniors have computers hooked up to IRN. Sophomores will have IRN access starting Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.

IMSA has hired Hector Munoz as a part-time assistant principal to help personalize the IMSA experience. His initial focus will be to work on the new writing center and CAC issues.

On behalf of Gretchen Stauder of CAC, Eric announced that PSAT results will be out in December. Princeton Review will be held on Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Hernandez reported on the following issues:

- 1) Attendance notifications will start being sent to parents via email on Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup> regarding any unexcused tardy or absence. The students and RCs will also be copied on the notice. The notice will also include the total number of absences or tardies for that class. For the 35 families that do not have email addresses, a paper notification will be sent out by mail.
- 2) Student Life will conduct a biweekly online survey on a regular basis, starting the week of November 8<sup>th</sup>. A typical survey will consist of five questions distributed to a random sample of 30 students. The first survey will focus on Arbor issues.
- 3) Student Council President Grant Keaton sent a message to the students telling them not to use cellphone in the school buildings or the Student Council will recommend that the administration suspend the cellphone privilege.
- 4) On Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, there was an election night lock-in at which over 300 students participated.
- 5) IMSA hired a new RC for 1504. Alicia Tolbert is the sister of a current RC and will start next week.

**President's Report**

Lorna Ruddy reported that she has secured volunteers for all of the statewide IMSA Information days. However, she is still seeking a few more volunteers for the VIP days on Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Vice President's Report**

Mitch Roth stated that Dr. Peggy Connolly seeks parents to assist with reviewing student research proposals. The parents do not need to have special expertise in the area of research. Interested parents should contact Dr. Connolly ([Connolly@imsa.edu](mailto:Connolly@imsa.edu)) or parent Choonie Cladek ([choonietc@aol.com](mailto:choonietc@aol.com)).

Dr. Connolly also seeks parent volunteers to judge at the regional and state Junior Academy of Science fairs. The schools are required to provide one judge for every two student submissions. The local fair will be held in the last half of March and the state fair will be held at the University of Illinois in the first week of May.

Mitch also distributed copies of the Disciplinary Committee reports. The Discipline Committee supports the parent representatives of the IMSA Task Force on Discipline by providing information from a

parent survey on various discipline topics. If parents have input regarding the report, please send to Mitch at [mitch.roth@ieanea.org](mailto:mitch.roth@ieanea.org).

**Treasurer’s Report**

Janet Lumsden reported on several topics:

1) Janet reported on the recent picnic. She noted that the picnic was a success and that the funds raised were used for the picnic. She also mentioned that the picnic was a great opportunity for parents and students to get together. Janet also mentioned that the picnic was a great opportunity for parents and students to get together.

2) Janet also reminded everyone that picnic expenditures are reimbursable. Questions should be directed to Janet at [jlumsden@att.net](mailto:jlumsden@att.net).

3) Janet Lumsden asked that if parents are emailing pictures for Senior Banquet, the pictures should be no larger than 100 KB each.

**Secretary’s Report**

Don Driscoll stated that the following spots were open for regional reps:

- n Region 3 senior and junior
- n Region 6 senior
- n Region 9 senior
- n Region 10 senior and junior

**Student Council Report**

Although not present, Student Council President Grant Keaton submitted a written report which stated that the Student Council committees are actively working on their planned activities for the year. Activities include evaluating the Quality of Life Survey with the Student Life team, furthering our research and collaboration with other consortium schools, assisting chartered clubs in their events and keeping the student body informed via flyers, meetings and the Student Council website. He also reported that he believed the student morale has definitely improved since last year, in part because of the work of the Student Council. Grant can be contacted at [Grant86@imsa.edu](mailto:Grant86@imsa.edu) for questions and suggestions.

**DownState Coordinator**

Jan Siemens stated that the PAC will be reviewing the current bus programs being used for downstate students on extended weekends. She would like to formalize the process and get PAC involved in the hope of better coordinating the routes, student participation and improved bus service. There are currently four bus routes running – Peoria/Bloomington, Springfield/Lincoln, Springfield/Collinsville and Champaign. Jan is seeking assistance from parents who would like to help coordinate this effort, particularly if they are knowledgeable about bus contracts and service. She stressed that, no matter what changes may take place, it will remain crucial for the local volunteers to remain very active.

Local bus coordinators Sally Koval and Wilma VanSycoc commented from their personal experience about some of the problems they have encountered with their individual bus routes. One specific concern was that the local bus coordinator must currently bear personal financial responsibility for the bus contract.

**Communications**

Barb Kulbida stated that there is a new newsletter at the website. Updates for future newsletters should be emailed directly to Barb at [bkulbida@clearnet.org](mailto:bkulbida@clearnet.org).

### **Old Business**

Janet Lumsden reminded everyone that the PAC is trying to update the bylaws and procedural guidelines this year, since they have not been updated since 1997. Every committee chair, regional representative and executive council member is responsible for reviewing and updating their specific section. We will decide at the December meeting on the specifics of how changes and updates should be coordinated. We are looking to vote on final changes at the April meeting. The bylaws and procedural guidelines are located on the website and should be reviewed by all PAC members.

### **New Business**

One parent asked that the emails send regular emails to the parents to update them on wing activities. Bob Hernandez stated that the RCs will be asked to send a monthly email update, starting with the second semester. If parents are having problems communicating with their RC, they should contact the HC in the building or Steve Zant ([zant@imsa.edu](mailto:zant@imsa.edu)), Coordinator of Residence Life.

Several parents asked about the best way to deal with academic problems. Eric McLaren stated that the first step should be for students to be proactive in contacting their teachers if they are having difficulties in their classes. Other parents suggested that sending an email to the teacher is the most effective way to contact him/her in order to coordinate a time for a discussion.

Jan Siemens requested that IMSA provide an address book with staff functions to parents.

### **Announcements**

The next PAC Meeting will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at IMSA. There will be an Executive Committee meeting at 9 am.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Don Driscoll  
PAC Co-Secretary