

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES

April 22, 2006

(<http://parents.imsa.edu>)

Co-President Sandy Hamman called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. Roll call was taken. There was a quorum. Vangie Hovermale moved that the minutes be approved. Joy Fernandez seconded. The March minutes were approved as written. Kim thanked Vera Koch for writing the March minutes.

President's Report

Sandy encouraged the region reps to schedule their summer picnics so that the information could be included in the sophomore invitation packets. She also requested help with the math placement breakfasts as they are to take place the day of graduation, and she and Gina will be busy! The tests will take place in Champaign, Belleville, Moline and Marion on Saturday, June 3, and at IMSA on Friday, June 2. Parents of present students are needed to attend each of the tests and be available for sophomore parents' questions. The Fernandez live across the street from the test site in Marion. They will be hosting the sophomore parents in their home during the exam. Parents are still needed to attend the other test sites. Please contact Kim, Barb, Sandy or Gina if you can help.

Downstate Coordinator

No report. Dean Drake was attending a family wedding.

Treasurer's Report

Varsha Pancholi reported that money was dispensed to cover the senior banquet expenses as well as the 1023 application fee. She also requested volunteers for the 2006 audit to take place at 9 AM on May 13, the date of the next PAC meeting.

Multicultural

Felecia Bragg introduced her replacement: Josephine Herrera-Miller. She also reported that there is now a multicultural committee link on the PAC website.

Metro Coordinator

Jody Bogdan announced that Pat Davenport will be replacing her as the Metro Coordinator.

Academic

Dave Jordan thanked Cecil B. de LeResche for all her hard work in March. Next month will be a summary meeting for the academic committee. They will also cover testing. All are welcomed to attend.

Communications

Barb apologized for the newsletter snafu. It did get posted on the website. However, it did not get in the mailing. The deadline for the next newsletter is May 6.

CAC

Gretchen Stauder thanked all of the PAC for a great College Fair. She especially wanted to thank Jody Bogdan for all her help in coordinating volunteers. Jody also thanked all of the parents for responding so enthusiastically when she called for help. Allison Schmitt was introduced as Jody's replacement in the CAC committee position.

Technology

Bob Kapicka reported good news: Bruce Biwer will replace him next year, and great news: this is his last report!

Student Life

Kemi announced that Marsha Carter will be serving as Student Life committee chair. She is still looking for someone to coordinate Friday Fests. Lisa Till will be chairing Parent Partners next year. Gina reported that plans for the Senior Banquet are coming along. We wrapped 184 senior gifts this morning. The seniors will be voting shortly on the emcee for the event as well as the speakers. The final Friday Fest of the year will be Finals Fest, Thursday, May 25. It will be a cookout. PAC will provide the meat.

Donations of salads, chips, desserts, condiments, etc. would be most appreciated. You may bring non-perishable donations to the May 13 PAC meeting.

Marsha also announced that there will be no hardcopy of the parent handbook printed for the 2006-2007 school year. It will be available ONLY on the IMSA website.

Discipline

Don Driscoll reported that the survey regarding the new discipline policy has been drafted and will be sent to parents in the next couple of weeks. Don asked for a motion to extend the Discipline Committee for one more year in order to look over the survey results and make further recommendations to the administration regarding the new discipline policy. He asked for five volunteers to serve on the committee and he volunteered to serve as chair. The motion was moved by Tim Koch, and seconded by the Fernandez. The motion was approved.

Student Council Report

The student council is pleased to announce their new officers:

Susan Xu President

Rachel Main Vice-President

Ev Brokaw Secretary

Jon Koch Treasurer

Susan reported that the Battle of the Bands was a success. The housing forms for 2006-2007 have gone out and are due back soon. The council is working on the quality of life survey that they do each year. The quarterly student council newsletter is being prepared. Teacher Appreciation week will be the first week of May.

The council is working on an Honor Code for the students. It is a modified version of the North Carolina Science and Math school's code. The code is a response to all of the vandalism IMSA has experienced this year. The council is hoping that it will help to further instill a sense of community amongst the students. Another project that the council is working on to instill community is a "lunch with the cabinet" program. Dr. Marshall was the first lunch guest. Students could meet and eat with her. She answered questions about the school and the administration. The council is scheduling lunch with each of the seven cabinet members in the future.

Alumni Association

No report.

IMSA Administration Comments

Bob Hernandez noted that housing forms are due back to the Student Life office by June 1. They are available on pdf file on the website. The re-invitation letters will go out by June 18th or two weeks after grades. Bob and all of the student life staff are reminding the students to DON'T LEAVE THINGS UNATTENDED – LOCK YOUR DOORS - GET TO CLASS – DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID – and !!!PASS!!!

Prom promises to be a great time. 219 tickets sold so far (167 last year). RC's are in the process of calling to confirm plans for prom.

Vandalism has gone down. The café looks better. One hall still has some issues that are being addressed within that hall.

4 RC's are leaving and their replacements have already been hired. Housing forms are due next Friday. The student life office is trying to establish a couple of special interest wings, based on social justice and fine arts. We will know more when the housing forms are turned in. We are not sure if there is enough interest. If it is a go, the students will live in 04. Please contact Linsey first and then Bob with any questions regarding student housing.

Jim Gerry and crew visited Muncie Academy in Indiana to see their one-to-one computer program. In their two year program, they are using Power School, a program where parents can access grades, attendance, etc. over the internet. They are also purchasing and giving each student a MAC to use in class.

Dr. Eysturlid taught at the Muncie Academy prior to the conception of the computer program. He noted that the computers have made some difference and he noted some apparent gain from their use. The debate at IMSA remains tablet vs. Mac. Jim is planning to visit Hinsdale Central High School where each student has a tablet. Jim is also pleased to report that Bruce Dixon a former educator will be visiting IMSA from Australia on May 3. Jim was doing some research for the one-to-one computer program and came upon Bruce's book. He e-mailed him to ask some questions, and the rest is history, so they say.

Jim wants to remind our students that internet blogging, including sites such as MySpace, are being viewed by college admissions officers and potential employers. Please make your students aware that any "personal" information that they put on the Web is readily accessed by people that they may not want to see it.

Jim will accompany a couple of IMSA students to the National Educational Computing Conference in San Diego this July.

Please also note that the school is unable to send e-mail to any parent with a Verizon e-mail account. Please call Verizon to address this matter.

Jim gave another plug for Milton Chen of the Edutopia Foundation. He will be at IMSA on May 16 at 7pm as part of the Great Minds Series. If you would like tickets, please email DKREIT@imsa.edu.

Carolyn Johnson reported that the advancement office will be completing a series of phone-a-thons with the help of the Senior Class Club. Presently, parent participation stands at 13.29% for a total of \$25,801.

Carolyn also shared that the new baseball dugouts will be commemorated in honor of Javal Shah on May 16 at 3:30 pm. There will be a small reception preceding the final home game of the season.

Old Business

Gina presented the following amendments to the by-laws:

Article IV Section D

Currently reads:

The Annual Meeting of the IMSA Parents' Association shall be held in March of each year at a time and place designated by the Council. At that time, all Council Members for the upcoming fiscal year, except Sophomore Class Regional Representatives, shall be duly elected or appointed pursuant to these Bylaws.

Proposed wording:

The Annual Meeting of the IMSA Parents' Association shall be held in **April** of each year at a time and place designated by the Council. At that time, all Council Members for the upcoming fiscal year, except Sophomore Class Regional Representatives, shall be duly elected or appointed pursuant to these Bylaws.

Article VI Section D #7

Currently reads:

Obtain approval, by simple majority vote of PAC members present, for payments of any sum over five hundred dollars (\$500.00). In the event that the PAC is not in session, such payment approval decisions shall be made by the Executive Committee simple majority vote. Executive Committee decisions on such occasions shall be reported to the Council at its next scheduled meeting.

Proposed wording:

Obtain approval, by simple majority vote of PAC members present, for payments of any sum over five hundred dollars (\$500.00) **unless payment is for a line item of the already approved budget. If payment is requested in excess of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) over budgeted amount, payment approval shall be made by a simple majority vote of PAC members present.** In the event that the PAC is not in session, such payment approval decisions shall be made by the Executive Committee simple majority vote. Executive Committee decisions on such occasions shall be reported to the Council at its next scheduled meeting.

There was little discussion. Don Driscoll moved that we accept the first amendment as written. Lucinda Dittmer seconded. Motion was approved.

Marsha Carter moved that we accept the second amendment as written. Jody Bogdan seconded. Motion was approved.

Announcements

Plan to attend Presentation Day, this Wednesday, April 26. You will be amazed!

If you are planning on attending the March 10 U of I engineering open house, it is suggested that you book your hotel now.

The next PAC Meeting is May 13, at IMSA.

Vangie Hovermale moved that the meeting be adjourned. Lisa Till seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Kimberly Schmitt