

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES  
December 9, 2006  
(<http://parents.imsa.edu>)

President, Kim Schmitt, called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present. A motion was made by Vangie Hovermale, seconded by Crystal VanDeventer to accept the November meeting minutes as written.

**President's Report**

Kim reminded us of Winter Break and upcoming Finals.

**Vice President's Report**

Dd reminded us that the Downstate Meeting will be March 10, 2007 at the University of Illinois, Urbana campus to coincide with the Engineering Open House. The meeting will be held at 2:15pm in Granger Engineering Library. There was discussion regarding the need for a slate of officers to be needed by the February meeting. The vote for new officers would take place in April and the newly elected officers would run their first meeting in May.

**Secretary's Report**

None

**Treasurer's Report**

Gary Dittmer reported that finances are running smoothly and routine tasks are being accomplished. Specifically, there is a separate account for Bus Transportation, the bond was renewed to incorporate the PAC with the State of Illinois and anticipated expenses for Senior Banquet are being tracked and budgeted appropriately.

**Downstate Report**

Noble Redmon reported that there is an ongoing effort to increase participation in the IMSA Fund. He also encouraged participation in the Downstate Meeting in March and suggested that car pools could be arranged to increase attendance.

**Metro Coordinator**

No report.

**Student Council**

Renie O'Connor gave a brief report. Chipotle (restaurant) was received well as an onsite community event. Surveys regarding classes are being compiled to aid students in scheduling. This will be especially helpful with the new science electives. Clubs are in the process of re-chartering. The Resident Life committee is continuing negotiations to bring an ATM to campus, perhaps through Chase Bank. The annual Clash of the Halls will take place in January.

**CAC**

Julia Husen gave an informative and thorough report. Sophomores are encouraged to complete their homework assignment, following their meeting in November. This will help make course selection much easier for all. A 2-year plan will be developed with individual goals for each student's educational plans.

Juniors and Seniors were in the process of adding and dropping courses for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Seniors are discouraged from dropping classes, as some college admissions are provisionally based on proposed coursework. Students must consult the pdf files on-line to make sure the courses they are requesting changes in are available, before coming into the CAC office.

PSAT scores came in and will be distributed to junior students on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Seniors continue to consider their college options. As of today, 1,500 requests for transcripts had been

processed. Scholarships account for 2% of the requests; the rest are for college applications. The six most popular schools that the current Senior class applied to were:

- University of Illinois: 152
- Northwestern: 84
- Washington University: 76
- University of Chicago: 69
- Case Western: 57

Questions and discussions regarding University of Illinois decisions and early action, early decision lists were addressed.

Upcoming deadlines for Juniors were discussed. There will be a general Course Selection meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> with individual meetings to be scheduled with each student. College advising meetings will begin in March. The SAT will be offered at IMSA on January 27<sup>th</sup> with future dates in March and June. Breakfast for all students taking the exam will continue to be available. The ACT will be given at IMSA in April.

### **Communications**

Barb Kulbida is compiling newsletter articles that will be sent with Semester Grade reports to all parents in January. She pleaded for a volunteer to replace her next year and suggested that the transition will be easier if they can work together on at least one newsletter before the end of the school year.

### **Student Life**

Marsha Carter gave us many reminders. Attendance in class is important. Students need to be reminded that they can lose the entire credit for class if they accumulate too many tardy's or absences even in the last week of class. Weather appropriate clothing is encouraged to keep illness level down. Wing/Parent Partners are encouraged to continue to support the wings. Students appreciate a touch of home, especially during the winter months. Friday Fest continues to be popular, but donations are dropping rapidly. Please continue to support the Friday Fests with any donation that you can provide.

### **Senior Banquet**

Gary Dittmer reported for Lucinda. The committees and subcommittees have been meeting and meeting deadlines. The theme has been chosen by the 07 Class Club and will be incorporated in the invitations, programs, etc.

### **Technology**

Bruce Biwer reported on a new project involving 40 students who will continue to explore how to best use the tablet PC's efficiently, especially in a problem-based learning exercise. The report will not come out until after Intercession.

### **Discipline**

Don Driscoll reported the need for a mitigating factor's list to supplement the current discipline policy. Student and parent input will be solicited and this list will come to the PAC for approval, perhaps by the February meeting.

### **Administration Report**

1. Dr. McLaren reminded us that December is historically a difficult month for students morale, due to the fact that pressures surrounding end of the semester, finals, the realization that there is no summer break to look forward to yet and emotions surrounding upcoming holiday events for some students' can just complicate their outlook on life in general.
2. Strategic Planning continues on schedule. In mid-January, Action Teams will prepare their first draft. These plans will be reviewed at the end of January and given back to teams for revisions as necessary. It is hoped that all plans can be approved by the end of March.
3. The Presidential Search committee was formed and is finalizing a position description.

4. Admissions Criteria for incoming students has been revised. Parents of prospective students are encouraged to contact the admissions office if you have questions or specific concerns.
5. The FY08 budget request has been submitted. It is important to continue to build relationships with the Illinois policy and budget-makers.

### **Old Business**

Kim thanked parents for regional admissions meeting information sessions. It is always nice to have current parents available for question and answer sessions.

Carolyn Johnson reported that the IMSA fund continues to need our help at increasing donations. Perhaps a regional challenge can be put into play to spur on donors. Region reps are encouraged to put out creative appeals. One suggestion would be parent competition within wings, with a wing dinner for wings with 100% participation. A spring Phone-a-thon is planned. Again, to be put on the "do not call list" make your donations now! The overall rate is now 17.6% with \$15,696 in donations to date.

### **Academic Department Presentation**

The Mathematics Department represented by Dr. Janice Krouse and Dr. Don Porzio gave a detailed explanation of the core levels of the Math program at IMSA. Parents are encouraged to visit the Mathematics Department website link on the IMSA website for complete details.

<http://staff.imsa.edu/math/>

We were reminded of the types of courses that students have the opportunity to explore as well as the types of problems that they tackle within various levels of Mathematics education.. Historically, IMSA students have performed well on the AP Calculus tests. A new elective Computer Science course and an Introduction to Math Analysis elective are being developed for the future.

### **Announcements**

The next PAC meeting will be Saturday, January 27, 2007 at 10 a.m. in the IMSA Academic Pit. Senior Parent Reps will be providing refreshments.

Mary Jordan moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim Koch seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Vera Koch, PAC Secretary