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**MINUTES**

Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, October 13, 2016

ISD Administration Building

9:30-11:30am

***Call to Order***

Call to order 9:30 a.m. 45 people signed in; 22 of 24 schools were represented. Proper meeting notice was given. **Quorum Present.**

**Special Visitor –** *KayLee Jaech, Interim Executive Director, Issaquah Schools Foundation*

Thank you for partnership between Council and Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF). ISF is working on a new application process to simplify applying for grants. Go to training as process will be different this year.

***President’s Report*** *– Becky Gordon*

* Gibson Ek has completed their PTA charter.
* Ron Thiele has asked if the Council is planning to conduct a community values survey for use with upcoming contract negotiations. Committee is being sought; contact Becky Gordon if interested. Deadline is February 1, so information is timely. Becky Gordon stressed if negotiations appear to stop and start it is due to processes in Olympia not a breakdown of negotiations.
* Presidents should sign up for a Council Member to attend one board meeting. Give two dates that might work in October, November, December.
* MailChimp Calendar of Events will be coming to presidents monthly. First one kicked off in October. Will be sending the week prior to the beginning of the next month. Agenda Notes will still be used for meeting detail. Council web site has page for each area headed by a Council Chair. Watch for November’s calendar around October 24.
* Standards of Affiliation (SOA) Contract for Council signed and emailed. To date, only 9 schools from Issaquah have submitted. SOA is due by October 31, 2016. Requires the signature of two officers.
* Becky Gordon has PTA & the Law books for Skyline, IMS, Pine Lake, PCMS, and Endeavour. PTA & the Law is being offered in Bellevue on October 25th.
* Officers who cannot make trainings work may use online resources with prior permission from Jane Dulski, Acting Region 2 Director and Area VP. Save training certificate and give to president.
* Presidents are asked to take a survey regarding Educational Assistant funding by PTAs so that Council can review what PTAs are supporting.
* Deadline to submit Council voting delegate forms is today. Submit to Leslie Kahler if you have not already done so. Clarification: presidents may invite others to attend Council meetings, but only designated voting delegates may vote.

**Minutes** – *Leslie Kahler*

September 15, 2016 GM meeting minutes were distributed and reviewed; will be filed with one change. Please sign in and indicate preferred email for Council correspondence.

**Treasurer’s Report** – *Laila Collins*

September Financial Report was distributed and reviewed. Beginning balance $16,714.55; ending balance $19,545.55. Bank statement was reviewed by Kimberly Nocco, non-check signer. Six schools have not yet paid Council dues; AIM insurance renewals coming due; November 15th taxes are due.

**Vice Presidents** *– Kimberly Nocco, Alisa George, Kym Clayton, Care Maree Harper and Ina Ghangurde*

Break out session by school level. Topic: the sharing of resources between schools.

**Best Practices** – Kym Clayton & Alisa George

Best Practices checklist was explained and month to month to-do list is featured on council web site. <http://www.issaquahptsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/PTA-Monthly-Checklist_2016-17.pdf>

This month PTAs should review insurance needs, complete Standards of Affiliation (SOA), and sign up for Legislative Assembly. Tell your board and general membership what you are doing and ask for input as necessary, as well as share an article from another PTA resource: council, region, state, national.

**Membership –** *Erin Eaton*

Currently at 13,107 members district wide, which is 1,622 members shy of membership at end of last year. All schools have uploaded to PT Avenue.

**Advocacy** – *Korista Smith-Barney*

Sign up for Legislative Assembly; $170 per person. Leg. Assembly is over two days this year due to extensive voting and two-year platforms. Can register up until day of event. General Election is November 8th. Superintendent of Public Instruction is on the ballot. Anne Moore explains there is a podcast of the two OSPI candidates speaking at the Washington State School Directors Legislative Assembly. Will send link to Korista Smith-Barney to share.

**Committee Reports**

**Art in Schools** – *Laurelle Graves & Juliette Ripley-Dunkelberger*

October 22nd art docent training at Grand Ridge. All school kilns are being checked for necessary maintenance and getting them up to date.

**F.A.C.E.** - *Margarita Leas, Ina Ghangurde*

“What Every Parent Wants to Know About the American School System” at Issaquah Valley Elementary October 27, 6:30 pm welcome, with 7 pm program start. Divided into elementary, secondary and high school groupings. Flier is on the Council web site.

**ISD Healthy Youth Initiative** – *Pat Castillo*

Healthy Youth Survey will be taken by 6th,8th,10th,12th graders across the state. Pat Castillo showed a video showing the importance of collecting information from students. Washington State saw a growing concern with mental health and upped counselors available in schools. “The Power of We” Youth Summit October 29 at Pacific Cascade Middle School from 9 am to 4 pm.

**Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF)** – *Valerie Yanni*

Reminder to look at Agenda Notes on Council web site for dates and email addresses.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Dining for Kids last week at MOD pizza, and the next Dining for Kids is at Agave on November 2nd. Signs available to pick up today for the “All in for Kids” campaign, and should be placed by October 17th. The “All In For Kids” campaign culminates with two Calling Nights on November 10th and 15th. Families who donate by November 11th will be taken off the call list. Donations go to support the 40 ongoing programs that positively touch the lives of students every day in your school district. ISF grants include Classroom Enrichment Grants of a thousand dollars and Kateri Brow Big Idea/Biggest Need Grants of up to $10,000. Grant applications are opening on November 4th. In preparation for these applications, the Foundation is running a grant writing workshop on November 3rd at 5:30 at Issaquah Valley Elementary. The timeline for Grant applications is on the Foundation website but they are due in early January. Volunteer opportunities exist including VOICE mentor, Career Coach with the Future Map Program that high school students can access through their career center, volunteering on Foundation committees, volunteering with the Foundation office, helping out with the Nourish Every Mind luncheon or breakfast or auction.

**Outreach** *– Kim Weiss*

“Lunch for the Break” now open to all schools over Winter, February and Spring breaks. Expect to need 400 boxes; up from 300 last year. Donation drop off will be December 19 at three locations. Kim Weiss will have flier with specifics at November meeting. Chris Longfellow and Yvette Blauvelt explained how Newcastle held a food drive for the specific items the boxes are required to contain. Each class had a list of items needed for a box, and collected 34 boxes total.

**Parentwiser** – *Heidi Fuhs*

New web site has launched: <http://parentwiser.org>. Structure of Parent Ed, now Parentwiser has changed. All schools should keep a Parent Ed rep who shares information with school community, and attend quarterly meetings. Council used to help pay for Parent Ed programs at individual schools, but findings were that many schools did not use the funds and interest was dwindling. Change includes an increase in the budget, which is paid into by all schools in the district. The goal is to provide three to four national speakers, plus one documentary per year, which will be open to all schools in the district. Issaquah PTA members get in free, while non-members are asked to make a donation. Issaquah Schools Foundation and Swedish Issaquah are partnering sponsors. While there will no longer be a “host school”, the location for events will spread among the areas in the district, with focus on the central region as it is equidistant to all areas of the district.

**Reflections** – *Yvette Blauvelt*

Reflections training September 26. Deadline for submissions November 21.

**STAR/Special Ed** *– Carrie Hipsher*

No report.

**VIS –** *Dawn Peschek*

Volunteers for Issaquah Schools runs the bond and levy campaigns in our district. Keep line item in budget active even during off years. Agenda Notes include VIS logo.

**Webmaster** *– Cindy Kelm (not present)*

Work on directory is underway.

**District Updates**

**Ron Thiele -** *Issaquah School District Superintendent*

* Gearing up for storm season, recognizing we have not had a weather related event for two years. Information has gone out to families.
* Professional development day coming up Monday. Focusing on elementary common writing assessments and helping with consistent grading, kindergarten data entry and analysis, high school math data analysis, and grading consistency. Next professional development day January 30. Will roll out Cultural Competency to teaching staff. Caprice Hollands will be keynote speaker.
* Next year’s Bell Time proposal will be high schools 8 am to 2:52 pm, middle schools 8:10 am to 2:35 pm and elementaries 9:10 am to 3:35 pm. No school before 8 am or after 4 pm. Intention is to implement the change next year if compelling feedback is not heard during community input time. Information sent to families for feedback soon.
* Sunny Hills ribbon cutting October 13 at 5 pm.
* Ron Thiele joins three PTAs each year. This year he has joined Apollo, Beaver Lake and Gibson Ek.
* Discussion regarding traffic near Issaquah High School and plans for improvement was initiated. Ron Thiele maintains the traffic is an issue beyond the scope of the City of Issaquah or the district to fix. Once construction is completed on the schools in that area, congestion should ease some. Discussion of why middle schoolers and high schoolers share same bus routes. We are the 12th largest district in the state, but run the 6th largest bus fleet.
* Land acquisitions updates are posted on the district web site. Podcasts from School Board meetings give the most updated information. Remodels will begin on Pine Lake Middle School, Cougar Ridge, and Sunset this spring. Once locations for new builds are firmed up, boundary reviews will take place. Looking to build one new high school, three new elementary schools and one middle school over the next 6 to 8 years.

**New Business –**

None.

Inclosing, Becky Gordon reminded to check Agenda Notes on Council Web site and to take the survey listed there on EA funding.

Meeting adjourned: 11:35 am

Submitted by:

Leslie Kahler

Secretary, Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6