

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES
February 22, 2003

President Jeri Hagiwara called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Roll call was taken. There was a quorum. Jan Siemens moved for approval of the January minutes. Lorna Ruddy seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

Jeri is seeking input on PAC attendance issues. Some regions are not being represented because the regional representative/alternate are not attending the meetings or the region does not have an assigned representative. Suggestions from the floor included combining regions that are not represented and video conferencing of the meetings. Parents asked if a direct mailing could be done to share the data and encourage the parents from specific regions to participate.

Treasurer's Report

Navreet Kang reported that we have \$4,374.68 in our checking account. The IMSA fund for advancement of education is just \$10,000 short of our goal.

All summer regional picnic expenses must be submitted by the March 15 PAC meeting. The books will then be closed on this account. The balance left in this account will be transferred to the PAC discretionary fund. It is planned that this money can be used to help the Student Life Committee's expenses.

Vice President's Report

Cathy Barnes needs people who can volunteer to help with a PAC coffee on Friday, May 30 during the Placement Day testing. You will be answering questions and trying to make parents feel more comfortable while their children are taking the placement tests.

Cathy also seeks parents from each region who can help with a Parent Information night at the Navigations on July 12 and August 2.

Please e-mail Cathy Barnes at rgbarnes1@aol.com, or call at  618-345-5507 if you can assist in either or both of these requests.

IMSA Administration Comments

Eric McLaren passed out an administration update. In addition, Eric reported that last week IMSA hosted an international PBL (Problem Based Learning) symposium. Two hundred educators from nineteen states and two countries attended.

Eric discussed the survey mailing that all parents received regarding tuition. The information gathered is to help IMSA respond to the state about tuition. The goal is to get the tuition issue off the table. IMSA is working with Rep. Davis. A discussion on tuition followed with Eric encouraging parents to return the surveys.

Eric spoke about the email that went out regarding the security alert going from yellow to orange. IMSA has a good plan in place that is prudent and reasonable. There is a core team that meets to monitor and discuss responses. Eric asked for feed back from the parents and suggested they use the PAC suggestion (pink this meeting) form.

Joint Progress Report

PAC President Jeri Hagiwara and Principal Eric McLaren presented a Joint Progress Report. Urvi Purohit, Student Council President was unable to attend due to Dance Squad competition. Urvi, Eric, and Jeri have been meeting on a regular basis at least once a month. It gives them an opportunity to discuss and share information. It provides a place to discuss issues that cover the entire school. The meetings are informal and usually last less than an hour.

Reports

Executive Committee and all other Committee reports are in the handouts.

Presentation

Eric McLaren and Jeri Hagiwara presented "The Making of a PAC Academic Calendar." Eric prepares several drafts of the calendar and sends them to the operational coordinators. After this group reviews the drafts, then it goes to the Executive Committee. After it is approved, Eric still has to go back and add to the calendar. He has to make sure that the two semesters are as balanced as possible. He checks the start and end dates and Spring Break.

Some parents had made the comment that PAC meetings should be at least two weeks after the extended breaks. Jeri said that the downstate parents have the biggest influence on the PAC meetings. They try to schedule PAC meetings so that it ties in with something else like prom or winter formal.

Announcements

March 15th is the next PAC meeting. It will start at 10 a.m. and last a little longer than usual because of elections.

April 27th is College day. Volunteers are needed to wrap gifts for the college representatives. The PAC meeting will be at 12:30 p.m. on the 27th. Email Don Driscoll if you are interested in participating in the PAC luncheon.

April 30th is Presentation Day.

Jan Siemens moved the meeting be adjourned. Janis Fanning seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Ann Carpenter
Acting PAC Secretary