

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES
March 20, 2004

President Cathy Barnes called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Roll call was taken. There was a quorum. Cathy requested that the February minutes be approved. Jan Siemens moved for approval of the minutes and Yaw Ofosu seconded the motion. Motion passed.

IMSA Administration Comments

Michelle Whetstone reported on current fundraising efforts.

- Letters were sent out this week to parents soliciting donations. Seventy-five parents have responded at this point and contributed \$21,000. It is hoped that last year's participation rate of 54%, which resulted in contributions of \$65,000, will be exceeded this year. A Phoneathon is planned for the end of April to increase participation in the campaign.
- Efforts are underway to improve on-going communications with alums.
- Support will be provided to the Senior Class in the form of sponsoring a DJ. The Senior Class is currently conducting a fundraising effort of their own by selling IMSA sportswear. Sportswear can be purchased with a credit card.

Principal Eric McLaren reported on several issues:

- Eric visited schools in Korea that focus on math and science, at their invitation. One of the high schools (Busan Science Academy) is interested in initiating an exchange program with IMSA. IMSA currently participates in a three week exchange with a school in Germany. The Korean school is interested in a full semester exchange. Eric feels that such an exchange could be beneficial for IMSA students because the Korean school has excellent scientific equipment, such as a fully equipped astronomical observatory and a scanning electron microscope.
- Eric attended the professional conference of the national consortium of specialized secondary schools of mathematics, science and technology at Stuyvesant High School in NYC. He was also had dinner with 12 IMSA alumni while he was there who are interested in supporting IMSA graduates who study in NYC.
- Recent student accomplishments include:
 - An Art and Writing Award for Heather Taft
 - Tim Credo and Paul Bierdz have advanced to the next level of the U.S. Physics Exam.
- The recent Great Minds Program, which featured Dr. Rocky Kolb, Dr. Joe Lykken and Dr. Olga Mena, was very well received by students in elective physics courses.
- The quarter ended Friday, March 19th. Teachers are currently working on finalizing grades, which will be sent out shortly.

- Eric met with a group of parents and Student Council representatives on Friday to discuss IMSA policy and procedures as they relate to student discipline. The Student Council is currently researching the use of “peer juries” in disciplinary matters and will present a proposal to the administration in the future. Eric will be proposing to the Board that a Task Force be convened to assess current disciplinary policy, which would be composed of students, parents, faculty and staff. Part of the assessment will involve a review of past disciplinary issues and how they were addressed. It is anticipated that the Task Force will span this year and next given that it is now late in the school year.
- Eric reported the following for Gretchen Stauder:
 - Seniors—CAC is currently processing the decisions coming in and encourages parents to be patient and supportive.
 - Juniors—They are working on their resumes and bios and scheduling interviews with CAC to begin the process of college selection.
 - Sophomores—They will be meeting with CAC on March 31st to discuss the college selection process and what to expect at the College Fair on April 24.

For both Juniors and Sophomores -- the College Fair opens at 9:00 am and 83 colleges will be participating. There will be presentations on both financial aid and admissions which will begin at 8:30 am.

Bob Hernandez reported:

- The Quality of Life Survey was completed by all students before the extended weekend in February. The results are in the process of being compiled. It is anticipated that everyone will receive a copy of the final report in two to three weeks.
- 79 sophomores participated in the Care to Challenge event that recognized their teachers from around the state.
- On March 29, 2004, Lori Andrews will present the Horowitz Lecture. Ms. Andrews is the Assistant Vice Principal of Kent Law School. Parents are welcome to attend but should inform Bob ahead of time to assure seating.

Rob Flot reported:

- The Admissions Office has received 592 completed applications, the largest number since 1999. SAT scores for this group will be reported in early April.
- IMSA’s Plan for Multicultural Development was approved by the Board in January. Rob distributed copies of the plan and answered questions about the plan. He later hosted a discussion of the plan after the meeting for interested parents. He will also post the plan online at the IMSA website.

Jim Gerry reported on the following issues:

- ACRUX software has been installed. Parents will have a password to obtain access to current student records (grades, attendance, etc).
- Beginning next year, IRN will no longer support Mac OS9, Windows ME or Windows 98. IRN will support Windows 2000 or higher and OSX.

- The PAC website is currently being improved. Recent difficulties with the site have prevented the posting of the last two PAC newsletters, but this is being addressed.

Student Council

Rachal reported:

- Student Council is trying to get a greater variety of restaurants involved with IMSA. Crepe Encounters will be coming to serve a meal this week and Roly Poly the week after that.
- Brick sales have been down so the price was reduced from \$10 to \$5. Students may buy a brick at midday and paint it. Proceeds go towards improvements in the Student Union.
- A need for additional elliptical exercise machines in the Fitness Center has been identified. It has been proposed that some of the exercise bikes be removed to make space for more ellipticals, which are quite popular with the students. Student Council is seeking funding for the additional equipment.
- Student Council hosted a Student Council Conference at Pheasant Run this month. Ten schools and 220 students attended.
- Rachel and Vanessa attended a Leadership Conference in Atlanta with college students.

Nisha reported:

- Student Council is currently researching a proposal for student participation in the disciplinary process at IMSA.
- Upcoming events include Wet and Wild Field Day (April 21), Battle of the Bands (April 29), Appreciation Week for Arbor, teachers, staff, CAC, and RCs (May 17-21).
- Student Council elections are coming up. Parents should encourage students to participate. The Council grew this year by 15-20 students.

President's Report

Cathy Barnes asked for nominations from the floor and receiving none presented the slate of candidates as follows:

President	Lorna Ruddy
Vice President	Mitch Roth
Co-Secretary	Naomi Knappenberger and Don Driscoll
Co-Treasurer	Janet Lumsden and Susan Larson Flannery
Downstate	Jan Siemens
Metro	Jody Bogdan

Jan Siemens moved that the slate of candidates be elected and Yaw Ofosu seconded the motion. The slate of candidates was elected unanimously.

Vice President's Report

Lorna Ruddy reported that 83 colleges will be represented at the College Fair and encouraged all sophomores and juniors to attend. She asked for volunteers to assist that day. Interested parties should contact Nancy Delich or Lorna.

Lorna also asked for assistance on Math Placement Test day June 4. She needs sophomore and junior parents to help with the prospective parents.

Treasurer's Report

Susan Larsen Flannery reported that proceeds from the senior banquet are being calculated. Discretionary funds could be allocated to purchase the elliptical exercise machines desired by Student Council and perhaps an arcade version of DDR, a video/dance game that is quite popular with all the students.

Minority Relations

Yaw encouraged parents to attend Rob Flot's presentation of the Multicultural Development Plan after the April 24th meeting.

Student Life

Kay Landers reported that April 30th is the next Friday Fest. June 1st will be a Finals Fest. This will be a BBQ picnic and volunteers are needed.

Dates for next year's Friday Fests will be limited to one per month and coincide with PAC meetings.

A manual was produced this year for Parent Partners that will be revised substantially and reduced to helpful hints for partnering. Emails will be sent out soliciting Parent Partners for next year. An additional parent is needed on the subcommittee.

It was noted that IMSA has a standing committee on Nutrition. Gordon currently represents PAC on the committee. A volunteer is needed for next year.

There will not be a Student Life meeting next month due to the College Fair.

Academic Committee

Parents and students should note that the language courses do not prepare students for the AP test. Students interested in taking the AP Test should see their instructor for additional materials. Dr. Marshall has changed the department name from Foreign Language to World Language.

CAC

Nancy Delich encouraged everyone to attend the college fair on April 24th. She needs volunteers to help that morning.

Senior Banquet

Theresa Taff reported that invitations were sent out last month and all reservations are due by March 31st. She will need volunteers April 3rd at 1:00 to help process credit cards.

Communications

Susan Marshall reported that although the last two newsletters had not been posted to the web, the problem has now been resolved and this month's newsletter should be up soon.

Technology

Pierre Maloka has asked the various committees to submit ideas to him for items to be included on the PAC website.

New Business

Susan Larsen Flannery made a motion to form a committee to examine IMSA disciplinary procedures. The proposal stated that the committee would be composed of parents, students, administration and staff participants.

A discussion followed that sought clarification of the role of the committee relative to a task force on discipline that Eric is proposing to assemble, if approved by the Board. Eric said his task force will be based on a model implemented several years ago to review disciplinary policy and will consist of 3-4 parents, 3-4 students, staff, faculty and RCs. The parent representatives to the task force will be selected by the PAC committee.

Co-Secretary Don Driscoll amended the motion to read:

Form a committee to solicit parent input regarding IMSA's disciplinary procedures and provide that to the IMSA task force that is being created, select parent representatives to that task force and provide regular reports of the progress of that task force to the PAC.

Jan Sharpless seconded the motion. The motion was passed with one opposing vote.

Announcements

The next PAC Meeting will be held on April 24th at noon after the College Fair at IMSA. PAC will be hosting an appreciation luncheon during that meeting, so please let Cathy know by April 10th if you will be attending and how many guests you will bring. Students and siblings are welcome to attend. The PAC Executive Committee will meet at 8:00 that morning.

Rob Flot will give a presentation on the Multicultural Development Plan after the April 24th meeting. The Senior Banquet committee will also meet after the meeting.

Jody Bogden moved the meeting be adjourned. Jan Siemens seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,
Naomi Knappenberger
PAC Co-Secretary