
Call to Order

Meeting called to order 9:48 a.m. 33 people signed in. 20 of 24 schools were represented. Proper meeting notice was given. **Quorum Present.**

Guest Speaker—*Lorna Gilmour, Equity & Family Engagement Specialist*

Lorna Gilmour spoke to the group about Cultural Competence. She offered to return to continue her presentation at a later date. In the meantime, Lorna is available if any PTSA/PTA would like her to speak at an evening event. Contact her at gilmourl@issaquah.wednet.edu.

President's Welcome and Report—*Leslie Kahler*

Leslie Kahler welcomed everyone and shared thanks to Cindy Kelm and Sara Carmichael for helping out while Leslie's power was out and to Heidi Fuhs for checking that the church had power this morning. Leslie encouraged presidents to help each other, ask questions of each other, and don't be worried about asking for help. Leslie also emphasized that she and the other board members are here to help.

Meeting Locations The new administration building remodel won't be finished until possibly late spring or early summer, so it is unlikely that Council will hold any meetings there this year. The General Membership Meetings will continue to be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church unless otherwise announced.

Training The second page of the agenda has a list of upcoming training sessions. The trend is moving away from in-person trainings and more online webinars. Talk to Leslie if you would like an in-person training.

Nominating Committee Training Training for the Nominating Committee is only by video this year (no webinar or in-person sessions). The Council website has a link to the video on the Washington State PTA website. Please note that each PTSA/PTA's nominating committee is limited to just three (3) members.

Cannabis Because cannabis is federally illegal, nonprofits cannot include cannabis in fundraising in any fashion. A document is posted on the Council website with this explanation and a link to the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board guidelines for nonprofits.

Facility Fees The three-hour minimum custodian fees are to accommodate the assumption that custodial staff work overtime. The fees will not go away. They cannot be waived. If covering the custodian fees is a hardship for your PTA/PTSA, the president should discuss with the principal if the fees can be absorbed by the school. Ron Thiele does not want to see events cancelled because of financial hardship. He asked his staff that oversees principals to make sure this is clear.

Speakers Leslie circulated a clipboard to gather ideas for speakers or topics that could be featured at future meetings.

February Focus Leslie is considering the topic of budgeting for the February meeting. Share with Leslie any specific questions you'd like answered.

Gibson Ek Request A Gibson Ek student would like to borrow a dunk tank or prize wheel for an ASB fundraising event next week. The students have permission from their principal. If a PTA/PTSA has either item available to lend, contact Leslie.

Suzanne Weaver—Suzanne Weaver announced that Lisa Callan, Issaquah School Board Director representing District 4, presented her resignation, effective January 24, 2019. The Board has 90 days to fill the vacated seat by appointment. Details will be posted on the district website next week. Suzanne also noted that four of the five Board positions will be up for election in November. The Board is hosting an informational meeting on becoming a board member on Wednesday, February 6, 6:00 p.m. at Grand Ridge Elementary.

Room Setup—The room for today’s meeting was set up with just chairs, no tables. Leslie requested help to stack the chairs after the meeting. Presidents were asked, and agreed that only chairs will be set up for the remainder of the meetings this year.

Consent Agenda—*Leslie Kahler*

The Consent Agenda included the following documents:

- November 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes
- December 2018 Financial Report
- Membership Report

Leslie Kahler asked for corrections or comments. There were none. The documents are approved as presented.

Business

Secretary Sara Carmichael reminded presidents to sign in and check the folders when they arrive. Sara will email a Council attendance report to presidents after the February meeting. This report can be included in the Standards of Excellence application, for those who choose to apply, due (postmarked by) March 1, 2019.

Treasurer Laila Collins announced that all Issaquah PTA/PTSAs insurance certificates have been turned in. She also noted that now is a good time to get budget committees together. An interim budget for next year needs to be approved at a General Membership Meeting before the end of this school year to allow for spending over the summer. The budget gets reapproved in the Fall as the final budget. Budget committees should include the current treasurer, current president, incoming treasurer and others who are familiar with the budget and committee input. Check your standing rules for budget committee stipulations. Lastly, a mid-year financial review covering July 1-December 31 should be held. The review form is available on the state website. Ask Laila if you need help.

Advocacy Erin Eaton noted that Focus Day is February 11, 2019. Details are on the Washington State PTA website. Kristen Slocum encouraged presidents to talk about this at their general membership meetings. Anyone can attend. Focus Day is a chance to meet with legislators, tour the capitol building, and participate in other activities. Issaquah is typically underrepresented. This is a good event for students, too. Contact Kristen Slocum if you have questions about Focus Day.

Membership Valerie Yanni noted that applications for State PTA awards are due March 1. See the state website for details. The Membership report is on the Council website. Valerie called out the schools that participated in the recent Power Surge membership challenge.

Nominating Committee Laila Collins, Erin Eaton, and Noreen Awan are looking for people to serve on the Issaquah PTSA Council next year. They are seeking candidates for all positions of president, all three VP positions (elementary south, elementary north, elementary central, and middle/high), secretary and treasurer.

Vice Presidents—*Dawn Peschek, Korista Smith-Barney, Wendy Shaw, Ina Ghangurde*

No report.

Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Art Laurelle Graves & Juliette Dunkelberger—Laurelle publicized the Artistic Support Conference (Art Docent Training) coming up on Saturday, February 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at Gibson Ek. The cost is \$18.00. Registration is open on the Issaquah Schools Foundation website. Contact Laurelle or Juliette if the cost is prohibitive.

FACE Ina Ghangurde—Leslie noted that Ina works in Lorna’s department. Please reach out to Ina for FACE information. Let Leslie know if you are interested in more from Lorna.

Outreach Kim Weiss & Kristen Slocum—Kristen reported that over 440 boxes were donated for the December Lunch for the Break. The food box delivery date for mid-winter break donations is February 13. Families will pick up boxes on February 14th. More information is available on the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank website. Check your folders for a flyer about an open house at the Garage, a new venue for teens to hang out after school.

ParentWiser Heidi Fuhs—Heidi noted the next ParentWiser event is Monday, February 4, about Teen Vaping. The presentation is for parents of students from fifth through twelfth grades and will be held at Issaquah High School.

Heidi also highlighted several other upcoming events. The documentary Like will be shown at all three comprehensive high schools in March. In May, Challenge Success will address handling academic stress without sacrificing achievement. Heidi reiterated that Lorna Gilmour is a great local (and free) option for a parent ed event. Contact Lorna directly. Heidi recapped the recent Digital Safety 101 event at Skyline. There were about 400 attendees and the presentation was well received. Heidi emphasized the value of having a Parent Ed rep in the local PTSA/PTA. Three to four volunteers are needed to help at each event. Heidi asked that parent ed reps or presidents help recruit volunteers.

STAR/Special Education Carrie Hipsher—Carrie posted a report on the Council website. Kristen Slocum and Erin Eaton are supporting Carrie.

Webmaster/Directory Cindy Kelm—No report

Ad Hoc Committees

Issaquah Schools Foundation Diane Burdette—Leslie reported that Diane will be sending a survey about snacks and helping schools have the right kind of snacks.

Reflections Leah Gibson & Kristen Allen-Bentsen—Leah announced the District Reflections Reception is Tuesday, January 15 at IHS from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The event will be an Art Walk style presentation with no formal program. Issaquah is sending 50 finalists to the state competition out of 250 pieces submitted at the district level. Leah also noted that last year's national finalists (including one Issaquah student) will be recognized on Facebook Live on January 22 at 2:00 p.m. Leah will be returning art that's not going forward. She will be contacting Reflections chairs.

VIS Dawn Peschek—No report

Influence the Choice Katie Moeller—Heidi Fuhs noted that the ParentWiser event about Teen Vaping is co-sponsored with Influence the Choice and presented by Jerry Blackburn.

District Updates—Gary Arthur, President IEA; Ron Thiele, ISD Superintendent

There were no District updates.

New Business

Local PTA Awards Golden Acorn nominations are due soon. Cindy Kelm can help your awards committee set up an online survey for nominations. Local PTA/PTSA awards should be announced at a February or March General Membership Meeting. Honorees will receive an invitation to the District reception on April 4 at Gibson Ek, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Presidents are encouraged to attend the reception. Don't forget to allow for time in the process (two weeks or so) to order and receive certificates and pins.

Meeting adjourned: 11:41 a.m.

Submitted by:

Sara Carmichael

Secretary, Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6