

**General Membership Meeting**

Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6

05/09/2019 10:00 a.m.

Blakely Hall, Issaquah Highlands

Call to Order

Meeting called to order 10:07 a.m. 47 people signed in. 21 of 24 schools were represented. Proper meeting notice was given. **Quorum Present.**

President's Welcome and Report—Leslie Kahler

Leslie Kahler welcomed everyone to the last business meeting of the year and introduced Erin Eaton, incoming Council President. She noted that the day's events include the business meeting followed by the end-of-year luncheon. Leslie thanked Dawn Peschek and Korista Smith-Barney for organizing the luncheon.

Trainings A list of upcoming training opportunities is included on the second page of the agenda. A Membership workshop will be held May 23 at 6:30 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church. It is open to all of Region 2 and counts as official training. The workshop is geared toward current and incoming Membership chairs and current and incoming Presidents, but is open to anyone. Managing Your Nonprofit will be presented on June 6 at 10:00 a.m. also at Our Savior Lutheran Church. This is a good session for all board members and anyone interested in getting involved at a board level.

PTAvenue Washington State PTA is discontinuing use of PTAvenue and implementing a new system called memberplanet. A letter from state about the new online system is posted on the Council website under Documents. More information will come later. Next year's elected officers still need to be added to PTAvenue now.

Standing Rules National PTA will vote on whether to increase dues (possibly up to \$1.50/member). This decision could affect the dollar amount local PTAs set for membership. Changes to membership fees must be updated in Standing Rules. Leslie suggested the following sample wording for Standing Rules if your PTA/PTSA wants to prepare for an increase in dues: The membership dues for Sample PTA shall not exceed \$###.## for the 2019-2020 school year.

Leadership Transition Leslie presides as President until June 30. Erin Eaton assumes the role on July 1. Leslie shared thanks and appreciation for serving as President.

Enrollment Verification Process (EVP) Leslie is working with the District and Cornell Atwater (Issaquah Schools Foundation) on the EVP. The district is hoping to be consistent about when in the process the PTA/PTSA link occurs. PTAs/PTSAs could communicate to their parent community information such as, "come see us on Step ## of the online enrollment verification to join or renew your membership, donate, and sign up to volunteer." Details will be available before the EVP goes live in early August. The PTA/PTSA link in the EVP will open a page on the district website that will include links to every PTA/PTSA in the district. A question was asked if the district could show a list of just elementary, middle, or high schools based on which EVP is being completed. Leslie will take that suggestion to the district. Contact Leslie with any other ideas and feedback.

District Notifications Leslie noted that the FlashAlert system sends weather-related school closure texts for people who opt in. These do not come directly from the ISD. Next year, ISD will be doing more communication through text messaging now that the FCC no longer requires an opt-in from parents/guardians. Texts are limited to 140 characters so the district texts will likely direct you to more information in email or on a website. A family's primary contact number filed with the district must be a cell phone number to which you want the messages delivered.

Consent Agenda—Leslie Kahler

The Consent Agenda included the following documents:

- April 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes

- April 2019 Financial Report

Leslie Kahler asked for corrections or comments. There were none.

MOTION 1 Kristen Allen-Bentsen moved to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion received a second, was voted on, and approved.

Business

Secretary Sara Carmichael needs to collect information about newly elected boards at local PTA/PTSAs. She will email a request for information soon.

Treasurer Laila Collins...No report.

Membership Valerie Yanni reported total membership of 13,081, which is down about 14% from last year. (The numbers were down about 30% at the beginning of the year.) Generally, the elementary schools caught up pretty well and middle and high schools are down considerably. Valerie will reach out directly to membership chairs and presidents to provide personalized year-end reports, offer tips and suggestions for the end of the year, and ask for feedback about what worked and what areas were a struggle. Valerie repeated congratulations to Membership Award recipients: Maple Hills (100%), Apollo (Silver), Sunset (Silver), Grand Ridge (Gold), and Gibson Ek (Platinum).

Advocacy No report.

Voting Items

Standing Rules Leslie Kahler explained that the Standing Rules need to be updated to reflect the lower dues amounts for Council for 2019-2020. All dues were reduced by \$100.00, resulting in high school dues of \$160.00, middle school dues of \$185.00, and elementary dues of \$210.00. Also, the Survey Monkey fee increased from to \$14.00, up from \$11.00. The proposed changes to the Standing Rules are posted on the Council website.

MOTION 2 Laurelle Graves moved to approve the proposed changes to the Standing Rules. The motion received a second, was voted upon, and approved.

Reports

Safety Committee Laurelle Graves and Leslie Kahler—Laurelle reported on the recent Safety Committee meeting: There are 1,506 security cameras in installed throughout the district. • The district is aware of the challenges regarding the office location at Maywood and are working on solutions. • A new radio system is being implemented across the district Thanks to the PTAs/PTSAs that helped pay for it. The district is adding radios to all kitchens. • School Resource Officers have new tactical vests. Administrators at all schools have brightly colored vests for emergency situations. • District employees have been presented one to two emergency trainings per month. • Stop-Pass cameras are being tested on some Issaquah school busses. Violators will receive a \$419.00 fine, of which ISD gets about \$200.00. • The committee is assessing PTA/PTSA interest in the district offering “Stop the Bleed” training to PTA/PTSA members. Leslie noted that it might be helpful as PTA events often take place at schools after hours. Leslie is working on this with Dave Montalvo and looking for feedback from presidents. She also commented that the amount of training opportunities would be based on interest. The more people that sign up, the more training that could be offered.

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

Best Practices Korista Smith-Barney reminded presidents to hold transition meetings including outgoing and incoming officers. The year-end financial review should be scheduled for after June 30, when the books close. Remember to thank your volunteers and board members. New boards should begin work with district facilities to reserve meeting locations and plan a summer retreat (offer multiple dates to get the most attendance).

Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Art Laurelle Graves & Juliette Dunkelberger—No report.

FACE Ina Ghangurde—No report.

Outreach Kim Weiss & Kristen Slocum—No report.

ParentWiser Heidi Fuhs—No report.

STAR/Special Education Carrie Hipsher—No report.

Webmaster/Directory Cindy Kelm—No report.

Ad Hoc Committees

Issaquah Schools Foundation—No report.

Reflections Leah Gibson & Kristen Allen-Bentsen—Leah brought several Reflections art pieces to return to the artists. She reminded presidents to claim the pieces today.

VIS Dawn Peschek—Dawn No report.

Influence the Choice Katie Moeller—No report.

Q&A and Breakout Session—Leslie Kahler

Leslie led a question and answer session for the presidents.

Q1 Gambling Rules for Fundraisers A PTA is planning a bingo night and auction fundraiser. Questions were raised about how to include non-members since the person asking was under the assumption that the Washington State Gambling rules state that participants must be PTA members to gamble. It was advised to consult the WA State Gambling Commission rules and/or consult or take a PTA and the Law class and that additional questions could be explored outside of the meeting.

Q2 Open Board Positions What should a PTA/PTSA do if nobody is stepping up to be President? Open positions on a slate of officer nominees is OK. Elections can proceed with a partial slate. Nominations can be made from the floor during elections. At minimum, a PTA/PTSA needs a treasurer and one other elected officer (need two check signers). Once the Nominating Committee presents their report, they are released from duty. After elections, the current and incoming board members should continue to advertise the open position(s). Face-to-face asks tend to be most successful. Current board members can divide some responsibilities until a president can be identified and elected, but should not feel they have to do everything. It may take cancelling programs or events to get someone to step forward. If a candidate comes forward, the board can appoint that person until an official election is held.

Q3 Final Board Meeting A president was interested in how other PTAs/PTSAs handle their final meeting of the year. Is your final gathering more of a social event? Held at an outside venue? Send ideas to Leslie Kahler or Nicole Morgan.

District Updates

Ron Thiele shared the following district updates: Capital Projects—The district is hoping to break ground for Elementary 16 before the end of this school year and open in Fall 2020. A boundary committee will be assembled this fall. Middle School 6 will be located at the base of Talus. Expected ground breaking is Fall 2019 and opening Fall 2021. The district is inching closer to acquiring the Providence Point Site for High School 4 and Elementary 17. Those two schools are expected to open Fall 2022. Capital project updates and designs can be found on the district website. • Ron recognized Teacher/Staff Appreciation week and thanked the PTAs/PTSAs for their support. • Curriculum Adoptions—The school board is in the process of adopting a high school language arts curriculum. Work continues on an elementary STEM curriculum adoption. • The district expects to run an Education Programs and Operations (EP&O) Levy next year to replace the current levy, which will expire next year. It is expected to be a replacement levy and not increase current tax levels. The new levy would secure revenue to continue and refine enrichment programs. The district is forming a Levy Committee now that will begin meeting in June. Director Suzanne Weaver suggested that PTAs/PTSAs invite ISD board members to meetings in the fall to speak about the levy.

Meeting adjourned: 11:27 a.m.

Submitted by:

Sara Carmichael

Secretary, Issaquah PTSA Council 2.6