

Issaquah Middle School Site Council Minutes – Approved May 21, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Elizabeth Brown at 2:28 p.m. The following members were present: Corrine DeRosa-Principal; Sandie Schertzl-Council Secretary; Elizabeth Brown-Chairperson, Drew Fletcher-Parent Rep; Dean Van Dyke-Parent Rep; Nicolle Palmer-Parent Rep; Onti Rosen-PTSA Liaison; Michaela Donahoe-Staff Team Leader Rep; Gayle Boyd-Staff Team Leader Rep; Michelle Garlatz-Staff Team Leader Rep; Julie St. Hilaire-Special Needs Rep; Katie Moeller-Community Rep; Michelle Pickard-ASB Staff Rep; Ann Swiftney-Guest, Seth Adams-Guest; Paula Weiss-Guest, Kurt Wieland-Guest

Parent/Community Comments

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March 26, 2012 meeting were approved as submitted.

Announcements

None

ASB Report

ASB Representative, Michelle Pickard, reported that the next Spirit Day will be Friday, May 25. It will be Neck Tie and Bow Tie Day. ASB Elections are coming up – 8th Grade will be March 29 and 6th and 7th Grade will be March 31. The next Spirit Day will be Friday, June 8. The 8th Grade Assembly will be June 13 followed by the 8th Grade Cruise. There is a PM Recognition Assembly scheduled for June 15. The last day of school is June 19 and it will be a Carnival Day.

Old Business

Elizabeth Brown noted there is one Parent Representative position open for 2012-13. The position will represent Cougar Ridge Elementary. Onti Rosen will get the word out to the PTSA and Sandie Schertzl will put notices in the IMS E-News and on the IMS website. Elizabeth asked members to let her know if anyone knows of a parent who is interested in serving.

Corrine DeRosa asked for nominations for the position of Chairperson for 2012-13. Elizabeth was nominated. A vote of members was taken and she was unanimously elected. Elizabeth agreed to serve as Chairperson next year.

Assistant Principal, Seth Adams, spoke about the status of Electronic Reading Devices. He noted that the District is still working on a policy. He presented the new language that will be in the IMS Student Handbook and he went over the Electronic Device User Agreement which students and parents will sign in order for a student to use a reading device at school. There was discussion on how this will work.

New Business

Onti asked about after school program offered at IMS. Corrine noted that we offer Math and Science Help funded by Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF) and Homework Club. Humanities Help has been offered in the past and it may be offered again especially for 7th grade. Math Labs and Power Reading classes for all grades are offered during the school day. These are funded by LAP and District funds. All middle schools have

Corrine DeRosa, Principal • **Seth Adams**, Assistant Principal

some kind of after school homework help funded in part by ISF. There was discussion on what is being done at the other schools and programs we have tried in the past. Paula Weiss and Kurt Wieland spoke to issues specifically surrounding 7th grade. Elizabeth mentioned there is money available from ISF for specific help, This would be different than the after school help that is available now.

Elizabeth collected completed Site Council Evaluation Surveys.

There was discussion on proposed changes to the by-laws. It was agreed to change Article V – Section 1.C. to read “Members are expected to attend all meetings. If a member finds he/she is unable to attend the meetings, a resignation may be requested so a replacement can be appointed.”

It was also agreed to change Article VI – Section 1.F. to read “The entire Council will select the position of Chairperson from the members each year.”

Team Reports

6th Grade

Michaela Donahoe reported that in Humanities students are just starting Ancient Rome in Social Studies and reading The Thieves of Ostia in Language Arts. In PE students will soon have everyone experience the swimming program. The hope is that all students will be comfortable and safe around and in water. Classes will have completed softball, pickleball, badminton and track and field units. With grants from PTSA PE was able to have an in-residence dance instructor and juggling equipment was added to the circus arts unit. Three coaches from the Bellevue Badminton Club came to work with all 6th graders. The PE Department is now able to hook up an I-Pod to the main speakers in the gym to play dance unit and work out music. Math students are currently finishing the geometry unit “Stretching and Shrinking=Similar Figures.” They are moving into Ratios, Rates and Proportions and will end the year with Comparing and Scaling. In Science students are finishing up ecology which included the recent field trip to Lake Sammamish State Park where students assessed the health of the forest. Next, they are into evolution for the end of the year. A grant from the PTSA was received to purchase microscopes that will hook up to computers and allow students to observe non-transparent objects and specimens on a microscopic level.

7th Grade

Michelle Garlatz reported that Humanities switched over from the study of World History to Washington State History. Humanities Plus just finished reading the novel “Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet,” a story set in 1942 Seattle during World War II involving the internment of Japanese and Japanese-Americans who were living in Seattle’s Nihonmachi (Japan town). Students are now researching the topic of Japanese Internment and will be writing a research paper. Humanities Plus students will be taking a walking field trip to historic downtown Issaquah on May 24 and 25. Students are currently reading “Red Scarf Girl.” The author, Ji Li Jiang will be at IMS on June 4. Math students are completing the unit on Symmetry and will end the year working in more depth on Linear Relationships. In Science students recently completed the first section of the Earth in Space Module – Sun-Earth-Moon system, moon phases and eclipses. They are working on a planetary travel poster and studying the solar system and gravity culminating with the EIS Rocket Project. In PE students have completed softball, pickleball, badminton and track and field. In Health they have completed fitness, skeletal system units and will begin the muscular system, continuing on to circulatory and immune systems and will finish with the FLASH unit,

8th Grade

Julie St.Hiliare reported in 8th grade students are finishing up final projects and have begun reviewing for finals in several classes. In Science they are learning how to read the periodic table and will complete their last chemistry lab. They will finish the year with their Discover Science Project presentations. In Math the students have begun reviewing for the End of Course Exams and finals. In Language Arts several classes have been reading “The Diary of Anne Frank.” On May 10, a Holocaust survivor came to speak to all the 8th graders. In

Social Studies they have learned about western expansion and are now studying the events leading up to the Civil War. The 7/8 Chorus, Band and Orchestra students will be going to Silverwood Theme Park to perform at the Music in the Parks Festival on June 1 and 2. The 8th Grade Assembly will be Wednesday, June 13 from 12:40 to 1:45. After an opportunity for pictures, the students going on the cruise will board the buses. The cruise will be from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Special Needs

Julie St.Hilaire reported that co-teaching Math and Humanities will be expanded to all grades next year. We have seen great results from co-teaching 6th and 7th grades this year and are getting good feedback. It has been positive for both teachers and students.

Classified Staff

Office staff are working on finishing up the school year and getting ready for next year – on-line registration, back to school check in, first day packets, etc.

PTSA Report

Onti noted that PTSA Officers for next year have been elected. Jennifer Tucker will be President. The budget for next year has been set. She mentioned that the budget for grants will remain the same. Three grants were given to Science this year. She thanked Sandie Schertzl for all the work involved with Panther Passage. Many PTSA members provided treats each day for Staff Appreciation Week.

Community Report

Katie Moeller reported that there is one more Middle School Dance scheduled on June 1. The Youth Advisory Board is wrapping up the year and receiving applications for next year. The Counselor In Training program will be attending a high ropes course for leadership training in June. The free art classes which offer classes in a number of mediums will start again in the fall.

Other

None

FYI

- 5/22 Chorus Concert 6:30 p.m.
- 5/25 Spirit Day – Neck Tie/Bow Tie Day
MVP Celebration at Lunches
- 5/28 Memorial Day – No School
- 5/29 ASB Elections – PAWS 8th grade
- 5/30 Band Concert 6:30 p.m.
- 5/31 ASB Elections – PAWS 6/7 grade
- 6/4 Staff Meeting 2:15 p.m.
- 6/5 WEB Play Day 2:15 p.m.
- 6/7 Last Day for Activity Bus
Last Day for After School Activities
- 6/8 Spirit Day
MVP Nominations Due
- 6/11 8th Grade Locker Clean Out – PAWS
- 6/13 8th Grade Assembly 12:40 p.m.
8th Grade Cruise



Corrine DeRosa, Principal • **Seth Adams**, Assistant Principal

- 6/14 6/7 Grade Locker Clean Out – PAWS
- 6/15 PM Assembly
MVP Celebration at Lunches
- 6/18 Yearbooks Distributed 1st period
Students Dismissed at 10:30 a.m.
End of the Year Staff Luncheon – 11:30 a.m.
- 6/19 Carnival Day – Last Day of School
Students Dismissed at 9:35 a.m.
- 8/13-17 On Line Back to School Check In
- 8/21 WEB Orientation for 6th graders and new students 8:45-12:30
Back to School Check In for 6th grade
- 9/4 First Day of School

Next Meeting – Monday, September 24, 2012 at 2:25 p.m. – IMS Library

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.