

# **ITHACA HIGH SCHOOL PTA Meeting, September 17, 2015**

Minutes by PTA secretary Carolyn Theodore

This first meeting of the academic year took place in the school activities room with approximately 40 people in attendance.

The meeting was led by co-presidents, Jacquie Lopez and Vanessa Wagner. The agenda is attached.

## **WELCOME and INTRODUCTION of EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS, JACQUIE LOPEZ**

Jacquie welcomed the attendees and introduced the executive officers.

- Co-presidents: Vanessa Wagner, Jacquie Lopez
- Treasurer: Shivaun Archer
- Secretary: Carolyn Theodore
- Co-membership VPs: Tina Hallock and Ally Rooks
- Co-programming VPs: Anne Horst and Beth Breuhaus
- Communication VP: Esther Racoosin
- PTA Council liaisons: Pat Fox and Susan Barnett

Everyone was invited to become a PTA member. In particular, we have an opening for a Volunteer Coordinator.

The PTA is joining with Principal Trumble to realize the vision of fully engaging all IHS students. One way the PTA is encouraging participation is by increasing communications via the PTA newsletter, which will be sent to all IHS families, not just the 300 on the PTA Listserve, for the first time this year.

## **SECRETARY'S COMMENTS, CAROLYN THEODORE**

Carolyn noted that we are again not handing out paper copies of the minutes from previous meetings, but that the minutes have been posted on the PTA website and sent by email to the PTA Listserve. A copy was available at the meeting in case anyone wanted to review.

Upon request, Carolyn verbally summarized the June 17 meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the June 17 meeting.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT, ALLY ROOKS**

Ally reported that the membership fee is \$10 per adult, of which \$4 goes to the State PTA and \$6 is used to fund IHS PTA activities. We have received \$1030 to date and are making good progress toward the goal of 300 members.

Anyone interested in joining the PTA should complete the Membership Form (available at the meeting or downloadable from the [PTA website](#)) and pay \$10 dues. A Membership Form is attached to these minutes.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT, SHIVAUN ARCHER**

Shivaun handed out copies of the 2015-16 PTA Budget. A copy is attached to these minutes. The budget is generally based on the programs we want to fund, with the goal of balancing our expenses with income received.

Each line item in the budget was briefly reviewed.

- Income comes from Member Dues, Directory Ads, Donations, and School Pictures Rebate. A fundraiser will be needed to balance the estimated spending.
- Expenses go primarily to Teacher Support Mini-Grants, Staff Appreciation events (annual luncheon; monthly breakfasts), State/National PTA Dues, and Awards Day.

Shivaun answered questions and moved to approve the budget. The motion was seconded and passed.

## **COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE, ESTHER RACOOSIN**

Esther reminded the group about the PTA website at [www.ihspta.info](http://www.ihspta.info) and encouraged people to visit the site. If you forget the url, you can always find it by searching "IHS PTA".

If anyone has questions about the PTA, contact information for the Executive Board is listed on the PTA website, so feel free to get in touch with us.

## **MEET THE PRINCIPAL – INSPIRING FULL ENGAGEMENT AT IHS, JASON TRUMBLE**

Jason said a few introductory words. His vision of "full engagement" for the school was not developed overnight, but during his various experiences over 23 years at ICSD, including teaching, coaching and building the track team, and administrative roles.

He invited everyone to call him Jason and noted that he wants to know everyone, and wants people to be comfortable with him. Please email him with any concerns at all.

Keith Harrington was introduced as Dean of Students for 9<sup>th</sup> grade. This role was created because of the importance of successfully transitioning 9<sup>th</sup> graders to the high school.

Jason is interested in feedback regarding the new Chromebooks. He is excited about the interaction that is occurring with students connecting via Chromebooks from their homes to work on team assignments. He invited feedback regarding how to help kids use technology responsibly and engage online. The School Board wants to continue the dialog and intends to implement blogs and surveys. Students likely already created blogs to provide feedback.

A series of "engaging moment" messages is being created to help spread the word about key events or programs. These will be 1-2 minute announcements to push out in real time. The school will ask for input on key topics.

Jason expressed appreciation and support for the PTA, especially what we do for IHS' 1400 students and 100+ staff members, before taking questions from attendees. Questions and responses included the following:

**Q:** Why hasn't the IHS Website been updated?

**A:** A new communications person is being hired and will manage the website and other communications.

**Q:** Regents/Honors combo classes not properly serving the needs of either level?

**A:** Data show that once students get off track, they aren't able to return. The combo classes push students to higher levels and enable more students to be successful.

**Q:** Does IHS have capability to offer internships as some other schools do?

**A:** 380 students is a lot to accommodate for internships. However, the school does offer a

number of programs that students can participate in, including: REV, Code Red, World to Work, BOCE, and CU Vet school opportunities.

**Q:** College search process – how much does the school help?

**A:** Naviance is a key tool that can help direct students via an independent questionnaire. Parents should not count on the school to lead the search. A meeting is planned on how to support the search, such as advice and working with school counselors.

**Q:** Engaging girls with Technology / STEM offerings

**A:** Studies show that girls outperform boys in science and math, but in terms of representation we are losing many girls each year. The school has offered female-only engineering classes and needs to continue to actively recruit girls for STEM courses.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- Meeting Agenda
- PTA Membership Form
- 2015-16 PTA Budget

## **IHS PTA Member Meeting**

**6 pm, Thursday Sept 17, 2015, Activities Room, IHS**

- 1. Welcome and Introduction of PTA Executive Board members – Jacquie Lopez**
- 2. Approval of June 8 meeting minutes – Carolyn Theodore**
- 3. Membership Update – Ally Rooks**
- 4. 2015-16 Proposed Budget- Shivaun Archer**
- 5. Meet the Principal – Inspiring Full Engagement at IHS – Jason Trumble**
- 6. Questions and Answers**

# I.H.S. PTA Membership Form 2015-2016

Help support our students, our school and all that the PTA does, including: The Word, Mini-Grants, Open House, Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Brunches, The Guide, Programs, Achievement Awards, etc. Thank you!

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation with Ithaca High School: \_\_\_ Parent \_\_\_ Caregiver \_\_\_ Staff \_\_\_ Student

Student's name(s) and year in school (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Yearly dues are:

**\$10 for any member of the family (parents/students are welcome!)**

**\$5 for others and for whom \$10 is a hardship**

**\$4 of every membership (even \$5 memberships) goes to the state and national PTA**

**DONATIONS ARE WELCOME! All tax deductible and every dollar counts!!**

Membership(s): \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donations (please indicate if you have a PTA program designation for your donation):

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment information: Check # \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make all checks payable to IHS PTA. Drop off in main office, or mail form to:

PTA Membership Chair  
Ithaca High School  
1401 North Cayuga Street  
Ithaca, NY 14850

**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
everychild.onevoice.<sup>®</sup>

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - opportunities to make a difference! We need YOU!**

Please check any of the activities below that you might be interested in helping with:

- Photo Day (September)
- Open House (October)
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon (Spring)
- Monthly Morning Munch
- Staff Appreciation
  - food/donation/gift card
  - help with setup/cleanup
- screening committees for staff applicants
- production/distribution of The Guide and/or The Word
- Class of 2016 events
- PTA programs and events
- IHS PTA Officer
- Call if needed

**JOIN THE LISTSERV:** For up-to-date information concerning Ithaca High School, sign up for the PTA listserv by sending an email to

[IHSPTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:IHSPTA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). To prevent spammers from joining, please include a short message with your name and IHS affiliation. Reply to the confirmation Email to start receiving IHS information. You do not need to be a PTA

Visit our website at [www.ihspta.info](http://www.ihspta.info)

**Thank you for your support!**

Prepared by Shivaun Archer Treasurer

## IHS PTA Budget

### 2015-16 Budget

#### INCOME

	Budget	% Total
Directory/Guide Advertising	\$ 1,450.00	17.79%
Donations - Morning Munch	\$ -	0.00%
Donations -Staff Appreciation Luncheon	\$ 600.00	7.36%
Membership Donations	\$ 1,300.00	15.95%
Membership Dues	\$ 3,000.00	36.81%
School Pictures Rebate	\$ 1,200.00	14.72%
Other Fundraiser	\$ 600.00	7.36%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 8,150.00</b>	

#### EXPENSES

Administration(checks/webhosting,printi	\$ 150.00	1.84%
Insurance	\$ 235.00	2.88%
National/State PTA Council Dues	\$ 1,200.00	14.72%
PTA Leadership training		0.00%
Teacher support Mini-Grants	\$ 2,000.00	24.54%
Awards Day	\$ 720.00	8.83%
Family Liaison Program	\$ 300.00	3.68%
IHS PTA Programs	\$ 255.00	3.13%
Link Crew Program/Student Activities	\$ 250.00	3.07%
Open House		0.00%
Newsletter printing, misc.		0.00%
Guide/Directory Printing	\$ 340.00	4.17%
Staff Appreciation Luncheon	\$ 1,700.00	20.86%
Staff refreshments(MorningMunch)	\$ 800.00	9.82%
Discretionary Fund/Other	\$ 200.00	2.45%
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 8,150.00</b>	