

Incline Middle School Jr. Boosters  
November 16, 2011, 9:15 am  
Home Ec Room #103

**Jr. Booster Officers:** Kathie Goldberg, Dianne Severance, Jayne Findlen/Sharon Schrage,  
Debbie Larson, Joanne Devine

**School Personnel:** Sharon Kennedy

**Others:** John Eppolito, Joy Strotz, Chris Swick, Larry Swick, Tara Buffington, Kari Ferguson

The meeting was called to order at 9:15am and minutes from the last meeting were approved.

**Newsletter**—Heather will repeat what she did last year, sending the directory out electronically and emailing out important dates every month with a full newsletter every other month.

**Directory**—Kathie is awaiting for list of names from Heather.

#### Treasurer's Report

Jayne Findlen distributed the new budget, which showed a balance of \$5,297.25. The Halloween dance made \$1,278, which is better than last year; however not all expenses from that event are in. Some expenses include \$395 for DJ (well worth it), and \$25 for helium. Jayne provided a spelling bee reimbursement check for \$109.

We have a few new members. Kathie and Jayne looked through last year's membership for people who hadn't joined this year and sent out about ten email reminders. They heard nothing back. Now they need to do that for sixth grade list.

#### Past Events

**Halloween Dance, Friday, October 21, 6:30-8:30**—Great! The DJ Galaxy mobile, was excellent and not too expensive—definitely worth using again. The kids danced a lot and Sharon reported it was the easiest dance in terms of behavior. Good behavior and non-stop dancing seemed to result in bigger appetites, as the snack table was depleted, a Halloween dance anomaly. A minor issue was that some kids didn't dress up and Kathie suggested perhaps next year having Chris Laramore (through the Incline After-school Organization) have a costume workshop before the dance. Jeanette and Ken will help with next year's dance, too.

**Brown Bag Lunch With Superintendent Morrison**—Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Good turnout.

**Take Dad (or someone special) to School**—Food spread was great. Strong turnout with 80-something people.

#### Upcoming Events

**WCSD Calendar Meeting, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm at IHS**—This meeting is regarding proposed calendar changes beginning the 2013-14 school year, the year after next. There's a proposal out for the school district and there might be a separate one for Incline but it hasn't been published yet. If you have an opinion about the school calendar, it's key to be there.

**Spelling Bee**— Sometime in January; date not yet set. In-class testing will determine who participates in the event. Judges are in place.

**Talent Show**—February 4<sup>th</sup>. Formal auditions will be right after December break but can be arranged any time with Kathie.

**Science Fair**—Set for February 15<sup>th</sup>. The cutoff date will be February 1<sup>st</sup>. All students who want to participate must submit their paperwork by February 1<sup>st</sup>. A couple parents are needed to help set up the project just after school on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Parent coordinator, Larry Swick, would like to have judges with backgrounds in engineering, science, and/or architecture. He will contact teacher Mary Bell about publicizing the science fair on the daily roar. Larry ([lrswick@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lrswick@sbcglobal.net)) asked people to contact him if they can help with set up or judging on February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Star Follies**—This annual lip-synching fundraiser is open to 8<sup>th</sup> graders. An announcement will be made to students that the sign-up forms will be in the office soon. Rehearsals begin in February and the show is April 27 & 28. They are looking for someone to work with students during afternoons, 2:30 – 4:00, to choreograph middle school numbers. Contact Kathie Goldberg if interested or know of someone.

### IMS Staff Reports

*Sharon Kennedy, site administrator*—The first round of MAP testing in the fall went well and the next round is in January. They will look into doing block scheduling again; it worked out well for testing. During February 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking their one-day writing test that is administered by computer. Students will get a writing prompt and paper and pencil to plan. (This also applies to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade writing test.) Someone asked if there would be practice in the computer lab ahead of time? Sharon said they are talking about how to prepare students. Joanne Devine mentioned she used to teach touch typing and coaching opportunities were discussed, including during enrichment or an after school program.

The AVID (Achievement by Individual Determination) program will begin second semester during intervention/enrichment period. These students are typically the ones that need a little more push and generally are first generation in their family to go to college. Eighth-graders will be chosen by teacher recommendation. Scott Vaughan is the AVID teacher at IMS. If you have an 8<sup>th</sup> grader you think might benefit from the program, contact Scott. Next year it will be all year. The program includes a tutoring program where the students work with outside students. AVID students will have a requirement of hours to volunteer.

Volleyball tryouts are usually the week before the December break. However, this year the break is late so Sharon will look at schedule and determine with Ms. Hrindo when tryouts will be. Wrestling starts in February. Jordin Cronin will return as coach and Linda Cronin will be assistant. Freddy the custodian (and previous asst. coach who was great) has resigned for health reasons.

### Other/New Business

**Parent Input Meetings**—Debbie asked Kathie to report that at ISAEF's (Incline Schools Academic Excellence Foundation) meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup>, they will be looking at holding Parent Input Meetings. These meetings would provide a quarterly forum for Incline Great Schools Committee representatives (IHS: Michael Goldberg; IMS: Joanne Devine and IES: Sandy Soli) to share the status of the IGSC goals and receive input from parents. Sharon asked about a good meeting time and the most popular time seemed to be after dinner, 6:30 or 7:00.

**Meetings for Middle school parents**—Sharon will hold additional meetings for parents that will focus on middle school scheduling and classes. Her goal is to inspire creative thinking, “thinking outside the box,” to determine how, in spite of teacher allocations (dependent on school size), can IMS offer the classroom grouping and variety of classes desired. Look for an invitation about these IMS meetings. Sharon asked whether a meeting is the best forum to get the best feedback and wondered if there should be another way to communicate. To help parents feel comfortable with open conversation and brainstorming, she suggested a portion of that meeting not include administrators. Parents thought that would help people feel less inhibited about sharing.

John Eppolito wanted to talk at the Brown Bag Lunch but they ran out of time for comments. Thus, at this meeting he distributed a handout about a program, “Springboard,” that has shown to make more kids successful in AP classes. He said there is someone looking over our program to help decide what grade the program would be best in. Kathie suggested this is a topic for Joanne (IMS rep) to take to the Incline Great Schools Committee.

*Kari Ferguson, IVGID*—The Trail of Treats and Terror had a huge turnout. They’re working on the trail from the rec center to SNC and a new bridge will be going up. The community Brunch with Santa is December 10<sup>th</sup>, with 8:30 and 11:00 seatings, at the Chateau. Students should contact Tara or Kari if they want to help. There is a dance on Friday 11/18, 6-8 pm, at the Chateau. Cost, \$8.00. Kids with ID get to go in first. Youth advisory council meeting, 12/14, 4:30 pm. Some of the YAC kids are picking up Toys for Tots bins around town every Friday. Fuel for the Holidays— The week of the holiday break, from 10:00 am -1:00 pm, YAC kids go to the Boys and Girls Club in Kings Beach to prepare lunch for the kids at the club.

IAO has free after-school soccer at the rec center Friday nights for 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades, 6-9:00 pm.

CYMBAL—The Music for Life concert will be the beginning of January. They are hoping to also have an adult series, too, where there will be dancing. CYMBAL welcomes donations of musical instruments. They would like to create a website and have it mentioned in the newsletter. The next meeting is Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> in the high school music room, 5:00 pm. All are invited. The schools’ winter music concerts are:

IES: Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>

IMS: Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>

IHS: Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>

Not CYMBAL related, but a music FYI: the high school musical is on the chopping block because they need more adult help. Not sure if it’s happening or not.

SAFE Routes to School—Nothing to report but kids getting hit is getting a lot of publicity. Parents need to reinforce safe habits and set a good example by dropping kids off in a safe place, such as in the parking lot instead of the opposite side of the street, thereby encouraging jay-walking. Sharon is telling students they have to go to the intersection to cross, even if their parents are right across the street. Chris not getting any response from the school police regarding doing a skit to communicate safe road habits.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:30. The next meeting is December 21<sup>st</sup> in room 103.*