

PTA January 2019 Meeting

January 16, 2019

10 – 11am

ES Conference Room

Attendees: Amelia Allread, Medhia Bendella, Mette Kjeldsen, Nancy Steinbeck, Mariselva del Valle, Enibel de Garcia, Sissy Laudaeta, Pilar Casas, Vanessa, Rosa, Flavia, Jill

From Admin: Jen Tickel, Jose Cruz, Viki Stiebert, Jair Guevera, James Mattiace, Shawn Colleary,

Minutes

Agenda item: * 2019 Committees – Volunteers Needed **Presenter:** Jill Monaghan

Discussion:

- Volunteers to help at our 2019 major event:s AASCA, FFF and AMIS. More info to follow
- Committees expecting to meet 2 – 3 times during Feb and March
 - o Uniforms – review current uniform as major changes were made 3 years ago. Vice principals from each school have talked to students and have tweaks to propose
 - o Bylaws – review current bylaws of 2008 and consider revising to be approved by the ISP Board of directors and voted to be approved at thePTA Annual meeting May 29
 - o Microgrants – circulate requests for applications to school department directors and review our microgrants to ensure funds are being allocated to maximize their value and impact to students

Action items

- ✓ Attendees were asked to check on the sign in sheet.
- ✓ Anyone interested can email pta@isp.edu.pa or check sangha for scheduled meetings

Agenda item: Update from ISP Security & Transportation **Presenter:** Jose Cruz

Discussion:

- Identified problems with guests on campus - ‘we have access but not control’ Ongoing efforts to ensure optimal security will soon include a sign in / out register and a requirement for all visitors
- Please contact the security office if you do not have a Parent Badge.
- Update on ISP hosting of JMJ pilgrims. Logistics have been carefully considered and ISP and JMJ will be working together to ensure safety and comfort of our 300 overnight guests who will be staying in the two gymnasiums and being bused to and from events around the city. ISP upper / lower covered courts will also be used for a daily service for the local parish.
- Referenced a student and parent training program called Surviving that he is interested in bring to ISP. The training covers cyber bullying, online safety and other personal safety concerns that he feels will be a great benefit to our community.

Action items

- ✓ PTA to send microgrant application form for more information on the Survival program

Agenda item: VAPA Updates**Presenter:** Amelia Allred & Jen Tickle**Discussion:**

Always a lot going on in the VAPA department

- Feb 9 Movie Under the Stars w Stargazing
- Feb 26th @3:00 – IB Diploma Visual Art Exhibition Opening - Come support our talented Seniors
- March 16 merging Family Fun Fair with Spring Artsfest for one big exciting day of celebrating ISP
- April Wizard of Oz – Elementary musical. There will be only 3 performances and last years shows all sold out. Tickets will be available starting from Feb 9 movie night and then will be sold on campus from the PAC Box Office.
- Shared that 10% of proceeds from Shrek will go to Hogar Maria Guadalupe and that this will be an annual commitment from the MS/HS musical.
- For the Wizard of Oz they plan to use proceeds from ticket sales to bus in children from our local sister school Las Trancas and from Hogar Maria Guadalupe.
- Advertising in the Wizard of Oz playbill is a great way to support the production and share your business with our community.
- May 16 AMIS

Action items

- ✓ Come to Feb 9 Movie Night
- ✓ Check Sangha or email the PTA to sign up to host 2 students for AMIS
- ✓ Contact PTA if you would like to sponsor a page in the Wizard of Oz Musical

Agenda item: Directors Update**Presenter:** Viki Stiebert**Discussion:**

- Attendance over the past 2 weeks very minorly affected from other years
- This years teacher retention was 70% and hiring has gone extremely well with 19 of the 25 available positions already filled with excellent candidates
- New Board of directors have formed 5 standing committees (in the past it has only been finance). New committees are Governance, HR, Marketing, and Transportation

Action items

- ✓ Send suggestions for next Directors coffee to Viki or her assistance Betzy

Agenda item: Communications**Presenter:** Jair Guevera**Discussion:**

- continuous effort to create effective communication channels with efforts to move as much as possible to website and Sangha
- working to improve social media engagement and need community support
- Sangha focus for all schools with Seesaw for ES and Canva for MS/HS.

- Looking for ideas and ways to engage parents during spirit week Feb/March

Action items

- ✓ #iamisp with photos from kids on days like today (Brining Literature to Life)

Agenda item: AASCA Update

Presenter: Jill Monaghan

Discussion:

- For the first time ever, ISP and Panama are hosting the AASCA Unified Soccer
- February 20-24, 2019
- 36 sub 18 team visiting from across Central America
- Volunteers needed to help welcome and sell swag from Wed - Saturday
- Opening ceremony will be Wed in the late afternoon
- Thursday and Friday there will be games on campus and we hope PE classes will be able to support the tournament and teams by watching the games
- ISP Cheerleaders working on some cheers to share with the community after the break

Agenda item: Family Fun Fair Update

Presenter: Priya Salvi

Discussion:

- Family Fun Fair March 16 11am – 4pm
- This year the fair is themed in celebration of our ISP Character Profile
 - We are Authentic, Compassionate, Principled Adventurous, Independent, Joyful. You can expect to see and experience these ISP character traits all over the fair.
- This year's bracelets are all inclusive with a covered area especially for younger children (tenis courts) and escalating extreme fun for all the bigger kids.
- Presale All Access Bracelet Prices
 - \$5 Adults
 - \$20 Students
 - 3 years & Under free
- Day of event all bracelets will cost \$5 more than presale
- Looking for Countries to participate in the International Food Court which is a delicious tradition that is a highlight of the fair. Each country participates to serve some traditional dishes and we all eat very well.

Action items

- ✓ Save the date Saturday Mach 16 11am – 4pm
- ✓ If you have a business that would like to participate as a sponsor or make a donation for our raffle prize we need your support
- ✓ Please help volunteer for a few hours of the fair to help ensure it runs smoothly

Agenda item: Business & Vocational Parent Database

Presenter: James Mattiace

Discussion:

- We are looking to build a database of all of the various expertise and connections that our parent and alumni community have. The purpose is threefold: to increase our connections between the high school and the rest of the parent community in PreK- 8, to make use of real life applications and experiences for our students, and to provide an opportunity for our parents to connect with our teachers over shared interests.

Action items

- ✓ Add your expertise to the list It takes 2-3 minutes <https://www.isp.edu.pa/apps/news/article/912406>

Agenda item: Curriculum Certifications

Presenter: Shawn Colleary

Discussion:

- ISP has 3 major accreditations: International Baccalaureate, Meduca (Panamanian ministry of education) and AdvancEd.
- We will have a normal review by AdvancEd and interested parents are invited to meet with this group Feb 11 at 11am in the ES conference room.

Action items

- ✓ Email Shawn or the PTA to participate in the AdvancED meeting

Next General Meeting Feb 6th 10am ES Conference Room

Enter observers here.