

## MINUTES OF THE EAST IBPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

**In attendance:** IB Coordinator Michael Boykins; President Ross Lee; Vice President Tanya Flores; Treasurer Steven Smith; Secretary Kirk Seminoff; Representatives Kristy Laufer-Nelson, Arti Gupta, Jason Niblack, Deborah Smith and Grishma Ajmera; Past President Steve Whisenant; parents Patricia Blessant, Lynette Murphy, Tim Lawton and Brenda Lawton.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Introductions were made.

Minutes of the May 2 and Sept. 5 meetings were approved (Flores motion/D. Smith second) without opposition.

Lee read a thank-you card from Hetty Bailey.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** S. Smith reported a June 1 balance of \$3,428.25, with \$2,910.97 in the East bookkeeper account and \$517.28 in a PayPal account. Contributions since June 1 are \$1,250, and no money has been spent since June 1. The balance as of the meeting is \$4,678.25. Expenses incurred but not yet charged to IBPA are \$104.55 for Open House cookies and \$76.86 for Open House ice cream, totaling \$181.41. That leaves an adjusted balance of \$4,496.84.

The report showed year-to-year comparisons over five school years. IBPA spent \$4,035.15 in 2018-19 and took in \$1,817.09, which included \$35.79 in revenue from merchandise sales. Smith emphasized that IBPA's 2018-19 revenue (\$1,781.30 in contributions) paled to previous years (from 2014-15 to 2017-18: \$7,734.64, \$7,038.30, \$4,061.91 and \$4,883.62). Smith said large donations in 2014-15 and 2015-16 spiked because of large individual donations. IBPA has spent more than it has taken in for three consecutive years. A motion (Whisenant/Niblack) to approve the report passed without opposition.

**IB COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Boykins said a room specifically for IB students, W222, will open hopefully in the spring semester. The room will become a before-school, after-school and lunchtime place for IB students. At lunch, Mrs. Hutton and Mr. Ortiz walk that hallway as part of lunchtime duties and can monitor the room. Paint and college flags will help to decorate the room, which Boykins said will house hard copies of online documents for student use, as well as paperwork for CAS and Extended Essays.

Boykins also shared East's IB profile for 2019-20. The profile is sent to all colleges to which IB students apply. Among the statistics:

### **2019 graduate data**

- Sixty-two 2019 IB graduates took the ACT with a mean score of 28.
- Twenty 2019 IB graduates took the SAT with a mean score of 1404.

### **Demographics**

- Of the 65 2019 IB graduates, 55 percent were female.
- Twenty-five percent will be the first in their family to attend college.
- Thirty-eight percent demonstrate financial need (free/reduced).
- Breakdown by race/ethnicity: 48 percent Asian or Pacific Islander, 31 percent white (not Hispanic culture), 9 percent African American (not Hispanic), 9 percent Hispanic (Spanish culture), 1 percent American Indian, 1 percent multi-racial.

### **Recognition**

- 2019 IB diploma rate of 77 percent.
- IB diploma rate since 2000 is more than 90 percent.
- In-state college enrollment of 74 percent, 26 percent out of state.
- Four National Merit Semifinalists, three National Merit Commended.
- The Class of 2019 was offered \$3,372,580 in scholarships and grants, of which \$1,891,119 was accepted.
- The 65 graduates were accepted to 67 colleges and universities.

Boykins noted the free/reduced rate is 8 percentage points more than the previous year. He suggested that as that number increases, IBPA may be seeing increases in requests. He also said the profile is cause to celebrate the race/ethnicity figure, saying IB has never been this diverse. The 74-percent figure of in-state college admissions was also a high. Lee commented that Kansas colleges are no longer as willing to let top students leave the state for college.

Boykins noted that East's 90-percent diploma rate since 2000 is among the highest percentages globally, and even last year's 77-percent figure is higher than the global average (70 percent). Boykins said the Class of 2019 was a group in particular need of compassion. It included three students classified as homeless and about 12 who lost a parent during the school year.

Discussion turned to ways IBPA can help in specific situations. Whisenant asked about parent or alumni donations not having to go through IBPA, saying we can help spread anonymous stories among parents, it extends the family and community. He said one of the challenges of past years was figuring out what to say. Flores asked if we could create a second account where donations specifically go to specific situations or students in need. Whisenant added that people are more apt to contribute when they know of a specific situation.

Lee said it's important to keep in mind that other organizations at East are also able to help IB students in need and there's a need to keep on the IBPA mission.

**TEACHER REQUESTS:** Boykins presented four staff requests. The first two, from science teachers, were considered together.

Biology teacher Ms. Abuzeineh requested \$199.99 for a Biology Questionbank License, which would give her and Mr. McMinn access to past exam questions and mark schemes. They would

use those questions to help prepare SL and HL Biology students for cumulative examinations. Chemistry teacher Mr. Reimers requested \$199.99 for a DP Chemistry Questionbank License, which would serve the same purpose for Chemistry students. Laufer-Nelson asked Boykins what the teachers would do without licenses, and he said they would have to create new exams. Reimers is a new IB teacher and Aubzeineh is in her second year. Discussion moved to mandating that any IB teacher who leaves the program must leave hard copies or digital copies of all items such as these. Boykins agreed. A motion (D. Smith/Flores) to approve both requests passed without opposition.

The third request was from IB counselor Meghann Ewy, who requested approximately \$55 to cover the cost of doughnuts, cups, juice and milk for 61 IB students who turn in their college folders on the morning of Sept. 11. Boykins noted this was an annual request. A motion (Ajmera/Lee) was tabled to later in the meeting at Laufer-Nelson's request.

The fourth request was from Spanish teacher Julie Dunkelberger, who requested \$219.99 — \$24.99 for colored printer paper and \$195 for 30 Spanish novels. A motion (Gupta/Lee) to approve \$195 for the novels passed without opposition.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**ELECTIONS:** Lee began discussion about voting procedures for board elections. He said in an unusual instance where there are two candidates for a position, he would prefer that nominees leave the room during discussion and voting for their positions. No bylaw change was suggested and no action was taken.

**IBPA'S ROLE:** The next item was defining IBPA's role in contributions. Discussion moved to last spring's request by the Debate team for \$400 to travel. It was noted that the team was made up of mostly, but not totally, IB students and should IBPA fund requests that involve non-IB students? Treasurer Smith handed out a document of what he said has historically been IBPA's spending guidelines. Lee asked that the group be aware of spring spending needs. Niblack asked why revenue was down the past three years. Reasons given included the lack of a holiday fundraising letter in 2018 and the increase in number of students classified as free/reduced.

Discussion turned to the amount spent on IB by East. Boykins said the program overspent and that can no longer be the case. He said test fees — \$119 per full-paying test, roughly \$60 for reduced and \$18 for free — can no longer be assumed to be forgiven if not paid. He said the future of test fees in 2021 and beyond is less certain than in previous years. The Board of Education has said yes to paying the difference in test fees every year. It asked for clarification one year, but passed the request shortly after.

Wrapping up discussion of IBPA's mission and spending guidelines, Whisenant suggested taking a look at the group's mission and how it might have changed. Laufer-Nelson said with smart people making up IBPA, it's OK to bend spending guidelines. S. Smith noted IBPA has a responsibility to be able to tell somebody how their donation is being spent.

**BIG DO:** Boykins asked that IBPA occupy a table at the Sept. 18 Big Do. The group agreed and committed to having board members there to talk with parents and be able to receive donations of cash, check or card (through a Square). Boykins will request a table needing electricity. IBPA will use its banner and tri-folds, blue tablecloth, and hand out IB pencils. Whisenhant volunteered to create a [signup genius](#) to make sure board members will always be at the booth. Seminoff emphasized the importance of promoting that IBPA will be there to talk with parents. Email and a ParentLink were mentioned as possibilities.

**FACEBOOK:** Two places on Facebook promote the program, an IB Parents Association group and an IB program page. Boykins suggested merging the two to attempt to spread the program's mission and grow membership. Laufer-Nelson, an administrator on the IBPA page, said she would add Boykins as an administrator.

**MS. PETERSON:** Boykins told the group of a change in IB responsibilities. Ms. Peterson (and Mr. Boykins) are no longer solely assigned to IB and have other duties. Ms. Horsky will be the bookkeeper and budgeting person for IB. Boykins is now the contact for mailings and addresses.

**OCTOBER MEETING:** Flores said the October meeting needs a program topic in hopes of attracting more parents. It was agreed that "Parenting an IB student" would be the topic.

**EWY FUNDING REQUEST:** Discussion returned to Ewy's request for \$55 for breakfast items. Laufer-Nelson suggested IBPA doesn't always have to think the same way about how we annually spend funds. Boykins said he sees the celebration for turning in college folders as tradition. B. Lawton and Murphy said they would pay the request. The discussion pivoted to the May vote, where it was approved that a sympathy card, and not a monetary contribution, was appropriate for the graduating senior who lost a sibling and grandmother in an automobile accident the day of IB graduation. Laufer-Nelson also said she would pay for the Ewy request and the original funding motion was withdrawn.

**LANYARDS:** Boykins was asked about lanyards funded by IBPA for IB juniors and why they haven't been distributed. Boykins said Principal Richardson has discussed possibly making them a gift to all IB students, instead of a junior reward for reaching the program's third year. Her thought is that the lanyards can be a source of pride. No action was suggested.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The next meeting of the IBPA board of directors is at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3.

— Kirk Seminoff, board secretary