

MINUTES OF THE EAST IBPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — OCTOBER 3, 2019

In attendance: IB Coordinator Michael Boykins; President Ross Lee; Vice President Tanya Flores; Treasurer Steven Smith; Secretary Kirk Seminoff; Representatives Patricia Blessant, Jason Niblack, Deborah Smith, Arti Gupta and Kristy Nelson; parents Kathleen Dang-Pham, Lorraine Choi, Anthony Au, Doreen Papadatos, Patresa Ebersole and Tamala Cocannouer.

Lee called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A motion (Flores/D. Smith) to approve the minutes of the Sept. 5 meeting was approved without opposition.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Smith reported a balance as of Oct. 2 of \$4,811.39, with four pending expenses totaling \$399.98. A balance after those expenses post would be \$4,411.41. The report also said \$501.11 has been transferred into the East bookkeeper's IBPA account from IBPA's PayPal account. Smith said there were contributions of \$210 since the Sept. 5 meeting. A motion (Seminoff/Lee) to approve the report was approved without opposition.

IB coordinator's report: Boykins introduced IB juniors Azaria Au and Tahsin Ahmmed, who talked about their Creativity-Action-Service (CAS) project. The project is an educational enrichment group in which students, 10 of 11 of whom are in IB, teach and mentor refugee students with an emphasis in grades 4-6. The group meets from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sundays at Azaria's church. The students tutor in English, math, science, art and health. Three refugee students participated the first week, four the second week, and more are expected as the weeks progress. The students reported a budget of \$800 for insurance required by the church, \$1,000 to \$1,500 for snacks and supplies, and \$100 for badges. All expenses are currently out of pocket. The students asked IBPA for a \$500 grant that would help to subsidize costs. Students said they will apply for community grants, as well. Questions were asked about promoting the group, attempts to find additional sources of funding, the need for insurance, and where a grant of \$500 would go (to insurance and supplies). The students were thanked for their presentation and the request was tabled until later in the meeting.

Boykins said there were no teacher requests and two scholarship requests for testing fees. One scholarship, however, was fulfilled by an alumnus. The remaining amount of that donation was applied to the second request, leaving a \$120 request to IBPA by the student. The student wrote that he/she comes from a single-parent family and is requesting half of the testing amount, with the hopes of paying the rest on his/her own. When asked, Boykins said this is the only remaining scholarship request and payments are due Oct. 15. Discussion centered around the possibility of funding the student's entire testing fee (\$270) if the student is unable to pay the remainder. A motion (Flores/Gupta) to approve up to \$270 for the scholarship passed without opposition.

Boykins spoke about the Sept. 27 incident outside the school involving people in two cars firing guns on South Grove Street, on the east edge of the campus. Students were at lunch during the

incident and it was difficult to get all students into the school and locked down. Boykins acknowledged the intercom system did not work in all areas of school, and that the district began work to fix the system on the next school day. He said a new intercom system is being considered. Moreover, the incident has prompted the administration to assess school safety at all hours of the day, including when students are outside classrooms and most vulnerable (before and after school, lunch). Parent questions included frustration about the intercom system, whether the suspects had connections to the school, and whether fewer doors can be accessible before school and during lunch.

“Parenting an IB student” questions: Attendees submitted four questions.

1. Is there a new place for lunch for IB students? Are there microwaves available to students other than in the Hangar? Boykins said the IB room will hopefully be available in the spring semester. He and parents suggested students find out which teachers allow students to use classroom microwaves.
2. Is there a resource for important dates/reminders, especially for juniors? The East calendar on the school website should soon have all deadlines and important dates. Boykins said he would also be visiting junior Ace Time classes soon with information about Extended Essay calendars and revamped CAS.
3. Is AP Physics offered at East? Boykins said not this year, but hopefully next year if enough students enroll for it.
4. Could a student miss Jan. 4-5 for an extended family trip? Jan. 6 is the first day back for students after the winter break.

Future topics for meetings were suggested: Revamped CAS, a session for parents of incoming freshmen in the spring semester; and college finding.

Big Do: Lee said there was one donation for \$5 at the IBPA table at the Big Do. The IBPA table had a good location at the northeast corner of the building, so most students and parents walked by the table at least once.

CAS request: Returning to the CAS request, past IBPA board members said there have been requests similar to this in the past, though not for as much as \$500. Nelson moved (Niblack) to offer an initial \$250 of the request, with the students to report back at January’s meeting to keep the possibility of receiving the other \$250. S. Smith said receipts will need to be submitted for reimbursement. The motion passed without opposition.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

The next meeting of the IBPA board of directors is at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 14.

– Kirk Seminoff, secretary