

MINUTES OF THE EAST IBPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — MAY 6, 2021

The meeting was held online via Zoom.

In attendance

Michael Boykins, IB coordinator	Donna Khamsysopha
Tanya Flores, president	Gung Nguyen
Jason Niblack, vice president	Mini Siddique
Steven Smith, treasurer	Tana Ruder
Patricia Blessant, Class of '21 representative	Justin Moore
Sean Killingsworth, Class of '24 representative	Melissa Mobley
Doreen Papadatos, at-large representative	Deborah Smith
Anthony Au	Janane Zayat
Sueanna Budde	Mila McKinzie
Lorraine Choi	Jonna Woodson
Tammy Coccanaauer	Jodie Bann
Candy Denk-Connolly	Rosa

Flores called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Introductions were made.

IB coordinator's report: Boykins said that due to the size of the Junior/Senior IB population, testing is being divided between AMAC (old Southeast HS) and the testing center at East High. Testing has begun and is going well. Mr. Shook has come back to help administer the tests. This has been great as it is the first time for Mr. Boykins and Ms. Ewy to administer the tests and Mr. Shook has a great deal of knowledge in this area.

Prom will be held in the courtyard on Saturday, May 8.

Flores asked about retirements. Mr. Witherspoon is retiring and Tina Peterson, IB Admin Assistant is moving to Caldwell Elementary. A motion (Siddique/Budde) was made to purchase two gift cards of \$50 each as a thank you from IBPA. Motion passed without opposition.

Minutes: A motion (Budde/Niblack) to approve the April minutes was approved without opposition.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Steven Smith shared we had one contribution of \$200.00. A question was brought up about the pending Chemistry expense. Flores shared that the invoice was found, and has been submitted to Paula. Steven shared we started the year with \$4,100.06 and will end the year with \$4,054.59. We are within \$45.47 of having a balanced budget. A motion (D. Smith.Siddique) to approve the April treasurer's report was approved without opposition.

Old business — Senior Recognition: Flores shared that 116 cookies have been ordered from Bagatelle. She will pick them up on Saturday, May 15. Boykins will check his schedule to see if

the cookies can be dropped off that day or if Flores will just bring them on Sunday, May 16. Ebersole made cookie tags - Siddique and Denk-Connolly volunteered to help attach them to each bag. Flores asked for help in putting together balloon bouquets for the stage and possibly the entry to the theatre. Siddique and Papadatos volunteered to help

Old business - IBPA Meetings - in person or via Zoom: Discussion was had regarding whether to hold IBPA meetings for the 2021-2022 school year in person or via Zoom. Pros - more people have joined our virtual meetings and there is more flexibility. Cons - some meeting topics lend themselves to in person, and we miss the face to face environment. Siddique suggested that we plan the first meeting for the 2021-2022 school year to be virtual as we don't know what the state of the world will be in terms of COVID and restrictions, then decide how to proceed for the rest of the year. There was no opposition to this idea. Jason (in-coming IBPA president) will explore options for an IBPA Zoom account.

New business — 2021-22 board election: Niblack shared excerpts from the IBPA bylaws that pertain to elections. He highlighted that the Freshman rep will be elected at the first meeting of the 2021-2022 school year and that position can be shared by two people.

Nominees for board seats:

Vice President - **Patresa Ebersole**

Treasurer - **Anthony Au**

Secretary - **Melissa Mobley**

Junior Representative - **Mini Siddique**

At-Large (need 3) - **Patricia Blessant, Suanna Budde**, Tana Ruder, Janane Zayat, Julia McBride, **Justin Moore**, Amy Hamilton

Elections were held via Zoom polling. **Persons in bold are those that were elected.**

A few people shared that if you were not elected, that does not preclude you from being involved or voting. As long as you have a student in the IBPA program, you have voting rights except for matters involving removal of someone from the board or re-election of someone to a board position for an opening during the school year. People were encouraged to participate as much or as little as they wish.

New business - 2021-22 Meeting Schedule:

August 12, 2021 (virtual)	January 6, 2022
September 2, 2021	February 3, 2022
October 7, 2021	March 3, 2022
November 4, 2021	April 7, 2022
December 2, 2021	May 5, 2022

New business - Teacher Evaluations: Flores asked Boykins to explain the process for teacher evaluations at East High. Boykins shared that by contract with the teacher's union, evaluations of classes are completed by the students each semester. Then there is time either during an inservice, or a personal meeting for Boykins to review the evaluations with the teachers.

Flores shared that some students may be concerned about retribution for a negative review and suggested an anonymous dropbox. Boykins responded that he cannot address any issues he is not made aware of. He needs honest feedback to take to the teachers and anonymous feedback would not provide enough specific information. Killingsworth shared that after the last meeting, changes were made and improvement was seen in regards to his daughter's concern. Boykins says he deals with teacher concerns, and Ewy deals with student concerns.

A concern was brought up that some students have difficulty speaking up. Niblack responded that even though it is difficult, it is a skill that students need to learn. Suggestions were made to encourage students to reach out, or have a parent help to initiate the conversation. Zayat shared that along with a great academic education, IB prepares students in the areas of responsibility, leadership, and organization.

New business - Student well-being/Academic stress: Flores asked Boykins to explain how East addresses the issues of student well-being and academic stress. Boykins shared that teachers receive training during some of the inservice days in areas such as mental health, homelessness, etc. He added that next year, the variety of topics will be more limited due to the District setting requirements for topics they must cover. Ms. Ewy recently polled the students on what support groups they would find beneficial. Examples of groups were dealing with grief, having difficult conversations, etc. The plan is to implement some of these next school year.

Flores expressed concern over the workload overlapping and Boykins said for the upcoming year he is planning to put together a master calendar for IA's and other IB specific assignments so that the students have less chance of being overloaded. It is a work in progress, but he stated that once created, it will be a first come type of situation where teachers sign up for their due dates to hopefully mitigate too much overlap.

Chat question - Is it possible to disclose information on how well juniors and seniors did on IB exams in general? Boykins shared that typically at the beginning of the year, a color coded chart is shared with information from the previous year. He couldn't recall if it was shared this year with the frenzy of changes that COVID caused.

Prior to adjourning, Flores thanked those Senior parents who are moving on with specific mention to Kirk Seminoff for taking the minutes, Steven Smith for serving as treasurer, Deborah Smith for sharing her opinions and ideas as an at-large member, and Arti Gupta, Sueanna Budde, Steve Whisenant, and Jodie Bann for their support. Jason Niblack was thanked for serving as VP and Siddique thanked Flores for her leadership as President.

Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the IBPA board of directors is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 12, 2021 via Zoom.

--- Patricia Blessant (filling in for Kirk Seminoff, secretary)