

## ISH PTA Meeting October 25, 2018

Members present: 19 parents present, Karolina Macauley

Meeting called to order: 8:35 by Karolina Macauley

Karolina introduced Mira Bush, the new PTA chair.

Mira introduced herself and thanked the parents that are already actively involved in the PTA. Mira is the parent of two students at ISH. She is excited to get to work with the PTA and hopes to get more parents involved in our school.

Traffic safety is something that has been an issue at ISH and something that was addressed last year as well. This topic was requested to be discussed last month to be discussed at this meeting.

- The school has a map of appropriate places to park due to the residential area, companies, and construction surrounding our area. The map was sent out to parents, but many parents expressed concern in not receiving it. The map will be made available to parents again to help alleviate questions regarding parking.
- There isn't to be any "kiss and drive" dropping your children off in front of the school as you are not allowed to stop in front of the school. Neighboring companies are complaining about the stopping of cars in front of the school on the already very busy road.
- The kommune is working on creating a drop zone in front of the school in 2019. This was in the works for this year, but there were budget cuts that moved this plan to next year.
- A parent brought up placing cones or something in the front to prevent people from parking in front or the back of the school as there are safety concerns for everyone.
- The roads here are public roads and if there aren't crossings, you aren't allowed to help direct traffic as it was discussed in having parents or teachers helping as "crossing guards" or "traffic helpers."
- The parking in the back is also a problem. It was discussed that perhaps there is a need for some no parking signs on the fence in the back because parents are parking at the back entrance which is also creating problems for the buses as well. After the discussion, we were told that the school cannot post no parking signs on the fence because the roads are public as previously discussed.

- It was discussed that perhaps the school building could open a few minutes earlier in the morning as the basic drop off time is only 10 minutes, 8:20-8:30. By having some more time in the mornings, could alleviate some of the parking issues. This brings up the need for teachers to be on duty even earlier. This will be brought up to management as a possible solution.
- A parent brought up rotating classes through “traffic duties” and asking parents to be out in the mornings to offer helpful reminders about parking. There is a recommended walking route from Hellerup Station or Ryparken station. We have graphics of the recommended parking and the station routes that will be sent out to parents again and posted to the school’s website.

Recycling at ISH-We have been working on building a recycling program at ISH. Katie Fox, Individual and Society teacher at ISH talked to us about recycling efforts.

- The focus group has been working hard to get the bins for the classrooms. These have been ordered and should be here soon. There will be different ones for the MYP/DP and PYP areas of the school. We will begin by recycling paper, plastic, and metal.
- We are working towards adding food waste recycling as well. We are very excited about reducing our footprint of the students and staff and offer the PYP students a practical application for some of their school curriculum.
- The contract was changed with the waste company to ensure that the recycling was being sorted correctly. With the rebates in the recycling of plastic and paper, the cost is almost null.
- We will continue to work towards earning our Green certificate.
- Parents are welcome to help with this effort.

### **Upcoming events:**

Halloween PYP party will be on Wednesday, October 31st from 2:45-4:30 pm in the canteen. We have 60-70 students that have already responded.

- A parent has offered to make gluten free items that we will keep in a non-contaminated, safe area for the children.
- 10 people have volunteered for set-up, 10 volunteered for serving food, and there are 5 people signed up for clean-up.
- The event committee will prepare chicken and vegetarian nuggets, mini pizzas, pigs in blankets, water, Halloween punch.

- Halloween party donations are asked to be delivered in the morning to the canteen. This will help to make sure we have enough for all the children. This year, the food is free for the students.
- It was discussed that in years past, getting to the Halloween party was a bit chaotic. We discussed keeping the children upstairs until everything is ready. They are using some adjoining classrooms this year as well to help make the large room a little calmer. Karolina said she would talk with teachers and management about this.

The PYP Festival of Lights is scheduled for November 27th.

- There are performances from the primary students that are already in the works from the PYP students. The PTA will provide refreshments this year as well. . We will discuss more details of this in the event committee.

Traditions-Mira brought up about having so many cultures and traditions present at ISH. She would like to start honoring these traditions and is hoping to include more traditions and activities. .

### **School Buses/Walking Buses:**

- There are no plans by management in the 5 year plan to implement a school bus.
- Walking School buses would help with the traffic situation. There would be meet up points at the Hellerup Station or Ryparken and someone would help students walk to school together. Parents could take turns leading the children to school. It was mentioned that perhaps older MYP/DP students could help leading these walking buses as well.
- The need for the “zebra crossing” crosswalk designations was brought up again. Parents feel this is quite a necessity. Again, it was discussed that the roads are public owned and the kommune has been made aware of this.
- Karolina showed maps of the best way to get to ISH from Hellerup or Ryparken stations.
- We discussed the possibility of a survey being sent out to parents to gauge interest and see how many parents are actually wanting to use this possible resource.
- Survey or any initiative will need to be parent driven as this is not in the strategic plan of the school. Survey could also ask more detailed questions about which direction in the city the families are traveling from as the school continues to grow.

Other Topics discussed:

- There is a possibility of having some committee meetings aside from the monthly PTA meetings. This would allow for more time to discuss issues and for actions to happen.
- We discussed creating a subset of the Events Committee for the MYP and DP students. The events at our school are geared towards to the PYP students and we need to build community and include the new students as well. We would need a parent coordinator for this subcommittee.
- The bathroom issue brought up at the last meeting has been acted on. There is now a task force of head of school, principals, finance, and some teachers that are working on this situation and monitoring it. Some parents said that their children have mentioned the bathrooms being better, but others said this was not the case. We will discuss this again at the next meeting.
- PTA finance update from this year's fees will be discussed at the next meeting.

Anyone that has anything to be added to the next agenda can email [pta@ish.dk](mailto:pta@ish.dk).

The next PTA meeting is Thursday, November 22 at 8:30.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:31 am.