

Indian Hills Committee for Parent Involvement (CPI)

General Council Meeting- Agenda

Thursday, February 20, 2025 – 12:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions – Ashley Thoreson, Lisa Earles, Amy Seidelman, Emily Mayfield, Nicole Campbell, Jennifer Drucker

Secretary's Report – Ashley Thoreson (Linda Reddy wasn't able to log on)

November CPI Meeting Minutes - Motion to approve the November 2024 meeting minutes as written by Ashley Thoreson, second by Amy Seidelman

Final CPI Meeting Date: April 17, 2025

Treasurer's Report – Lisa Earles

Occasionally, you will see a not budgeted or unexpected line-item on the statements - examples from this set of statements include a non-income pass thru from letting the mime/improv group use the CPI Venmo for payments that go straight to them, taking out cash for Toys for Tigers (and getting some of it back), paying for some warm clothing with the Feed the Pod Fund, and purchasing the required binders for students who weren't able to buy one. In January, business sponsorships came in, and we received more matching funds from the fall fundraiser that hit late. This is also when the CPI was reimbursed by the school for the remaining Toys for Tigers funding.

Motion to approve Ashley Thoreson, second by Jennifer Drucker

Sweetheart Dance Update (Lisa Earles)

Dance expenses were budgeted at \$500 but came in around \$800 due to DJ expenses (normal, but not built in). Fortunately, this was easily covered by the over \$500 in donations received. The dance raised almost \$2k, which was the goal. These funds go to LA wildfire victims, RISE scholarships at Valley, and Friends of the Youth Justice Initiative in West Des Moines.

Restaurant Night Update (Amy Seidelman)

Blaze Pizza fundraiser raised \$163.23

Upcoming restaurant night at Chipotle (Valley West) on Tuesday, March 4, from 4-8 pm - CPI will get 25% of the proceeds. Delivery orders don't qualify - online orders will only count for pickup through the official Chipotle App or website, and must be placed DURING the fundraiser date and time.

Upcoming restaurant "day" at Grimaldi's in West Des Moines on Wednesday, May 14 from 11 am to 10 pm. Dine-In or To-Go sales are included. CPI will get 20% of the proceeds.

Upcoming date reminders (Ashley Thoreson):

April 9 - career day

April 24 - IH coffee social at Barnes and Noble on University Ave. in Clive

SCN Update (Emily Mayfield)

The SCN has been discussing core values and the WDMCS strategic plan. Specifically:

The meaningful and collaborative relationships core value was discussed, including varying parent involvement between schools in WDMCS.

The equitable access core value was discussed, including volunteer messaging and rules by building. The WDMCS HR director was present and agreed to look at language and policy and do some education for consistency across the district.

The school district calendar for 25-26 might change if a bill passes that allows WDMCS to change the start date from August 25 to August 20 (right now, state law prevents a start date prior to August 23). Stay tuned.

Changes are happening at WDMCS Learning Resource Center at the organizational level.

Tiger Gala Update (Ashley Thoreson)

IH Centerpiece was great! Event was fun - consider joining in the future if on the fence.

Motion to adjourn by Ashley Thoreson

Second by Nicole Campbell

Meeting adjourned at 12:29 pm

Indian Hills Committee for Parent Involvement (CPI)

Parent Body Meeting- Agenda

Thursday, February 20, 2025 – 12:30 pm

Calling meeting to order at 12:30 PM

Welcome and Introductions (28 attendees) - Welcome by Ashley Thoresen

Call to Order at 12:31 pm

Guest Speakers – Joe Rich, IH Counselor

For 8th to 9th graders:

- Counselors from 9th grade came down to speak to 8th graders about classes for 9th grade.
- Students picked electives
- Counselors are coming back to IH to go over their plan
- Course Planner has 9-12th grade classes
 - Students put in classes/electives needed for 9th grade.
 - Students are welcome to put in classes for 10-12th grade classes as well.
 - If students change classes, it will automatically update on the Course Planner.
- 2 types of Biology in 9th grade now: Regular biology and Advanced Biology
 - Kids taking Advanced Biology in 9th grade will get college credit (4 DMACC credit). Whatever grade you get in it will go to your DMACC transcripts.
 - After the first semester in 9th grade you can drop down to regular bio if student wants.
- **PE Waiver for High School** – Available if you are taking full academic schedule or if you play a sports.

For 7th to 8th graders:

- Students will get an opportunity to take advanced classes.
 - If you take advanced Science in 8th grade, you will take Biology in 9th grade. You will get high school credit and will impact your GPA.
- Aside from the core classes, wheel classes, and PE, they have opportunity for elective courses.
- If any changes are needed, email Mr. Rich.
- In 8th grade music is no longer a required class.
- 8th grade Art Class meets 2nd semester in 8th grade. An every other day class.
- Spanish 1 is an elective. It meets every day. Gets High school credit and will impact your high school GPA.
 - No world language is required to graduate from Valley.
 - Most colleges require World Language.
 - If you took 4 years of language in High School you don't need to take language at University of Iowa.

- o You may also need to take a placement test.
- o In 9th grade you can take Spanish, French, and German.

7th to 8th grade – Not a lot of exceptions for PE Waiver.

Never too late to make changes. Email Mr. Rich (richjo@wdmcs.org)

Principal/Assistant Principal Update - Dr. Shane Christensen & Mr. Zac Sinram

- **Sweetheart Dance** – Good turnout. First time ever having dance and conferences at the same time. If we can keep After the Bell bussing available, may get more students to participate. 3 organizations benefiting from it: Support LA Fires, Friends of YJI, and RISE scholarship fund. Only virtual conferences on the night of the Dance.
- **School Improvement Goals Update** – First goal around attendance – we are at 90% attendance, above our goal.
 Behavior goal – 98% of students have not come to office more than twice.
 Academic – 95% of students have either As, Bs, and Cs. Spring School is available for students who have failed any subjects. Possibility of summer school for any students who fail spring classes.
 Caring Adult Survey – Students take a survey to make sure that all students have at least one adult in the building they feel like they can connect with and talk to.

Mr. Sinram is taking a new role as Athletic Director at Valley. 8th graders will work with Mr. Sinram in his new role.

Indian Hills Q & A - Dr. Christensen & Mr. Sinram

- Concern about grades by parent. Can the students get more homework so that parents can spend time helping them? Reach out to the teachers for support. Students can access IXL from home. IXL builds skills in Math, Language Arts, and Social Studies.

Upcoming Events

April 9 – Career Day AM / Culture Day PM / City of Clive, WDMCS, IH Celebration

April 17 - Final Virtual CPI Meeting

April 18 – No School / Professional Development Day

New April 24 – IH Coffee Social @ Barnes & Nobel in Clive (University Ave.)

Teacher Appreciation Week – May 5-9, 2025

Adjourn @ 1:08 pm