

IMSA PAC Newsletter

Third Quarter Edition

[HTTP://parents.imsa.edu](http://parents.imsa.edu)

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Notes from the Presidents

Hello Everyone,

The school year is quickly coming to a close and for those of us who are parents of Seniors it seems like only yesterday that we were anticipating the news of our child's acceptance into IMSA and all the excitement, fear and questions that followed.

I can only express my deepest appreciation for our experience here. Not that every experience was exhilarating but that all were educational for parent and student alike. I am sure many can remember the first time our student didn't receive an 'A' for their work. We all survived...after the shock wore off. And some of us were glad to finally discover a place where our children would be challenged inside and out of the classroom, a place where they weren't treated as difficult, a place where they were celebrated and encouraged for their inquisitiveness, a place where being gifted is not a label but a way of thinking that allows unlimited growth.

Over these last three years, many new friendships have formed, not just among students. I have met and come to know so many parents and IMSA Board, faculty and staff who have enriched my life. The friendships I have come by with parents of past graduates, my son's class and the following classes are invaluable. The community feeling of the people who impact our student's lives is priceless. There is no other place where I have felt as valued being a parent. There is no other place for which I feel so much gratitude for the future handed to my child.

To the parents of the children who will still attend IMSA next year, I want to say "Get Involved" just as you did in elementary school. This place is such a blessing and there are so many ways to become a part of it. PAC officers, PAC meetings and activities, Hall and Wing activities, IMSA Fund, Parent Day, VIP Day and College Day volunteers are just a few to get you started. Be part of your child's life at IMSA, you didn't send them alone, you came TOGETHER.

Now comes the sad part. Soon it will be time to let others take our place at IMSA. It all goes so fast. Sometimes, it feels like you're in a race that you not

sure you want to win. It's as if the day your child gets accepted to IMSA you are on top of the mountain and you start rolling down towards the exit. It just moves faster and faster until you're there before you know it. Don't let this time pass you by. It is precious. Make the most of it, for your child, for the IMSA community, and without ever realizing it, for yourself.

I can never thank all of you enough for allowing me to be part of a great organization as the IMSA PAC, for giving me the opportunity to serve, and most important of all, for all the dedicated help each of you have contributed to make my experience at IMSA absolutely wonderful.

Gratefully,
Barb Kulbida, PAC Co-president

SENIOR Updates!!!

SENIOR BANQUET 2007!!!!

Three Quarters of the Senior Year is finished! This is a reminder to make the date on your calendar for the Senior Banquet, the night before the Graduation Ceremony:

Friday evening, June 1, 2007

NIU Duke Ellington Grand Ballroom – DeKalb, IL

MARK THE DATE NOW

A Reservation Form has been mailed to you.

Last Year's Banquet was a huge success – enjoyed by over 600 people! Don't miss out!

Paid Reservations are due by April 15

Sincerely,
Lucinda Dittmer, Senior Banquet Co-Chair
garydittmer@sbcglobal.net

2007 IMSA Senior Banquet

June 1, 2007

NIU Duke Ellington Grand Ballroom – DeKalb, IL

PAC Officers Needed for 2007-2008 School Year

We are recruiting Junior and Sophomore parents for next years PAC officers. Elections will be held at the April 21st meeting. The new Board takes over at the May 12th meeting. Anyone interested in taking a position, continuing a position or moving up in position please contact Kim at KimberleySchmitt@aol.com or Barb at BAMKC52@aol.com. If you think that someone might be a good candidate please give us your suggestions and we will contact them. You can still nominate someone at the April meeting. AND a reminder that although Representatives are not an elected position, if you wish to serve as a Junior or Senior Parent Rep or Alternate next school year and haven't yet informed anyone just contact your current Senior Rep or one of the PAC Officers.

Ann Iglesias iglesias@airlogic.net or Allison Boldridge boldridge@comcast.net
We look forward to meeting and working with you this year!

PARENT PARTNERS

For Junior and Sophomore Parents, now would be a good time to start thinking about what you would like to contribute to your child's experience at IMSA next school year. Parent Partners is one of the more direct ways you can keep personal contact with your student and his/her friends. Consider being one of the Parent Partners for your child's wing next year. It really doesn't take much time coordinating online with the RC and other parents to provide wing dinners or their financing and special events that the students or RC plan. It's a fun way to stay involved in your student's home away from home.

Downstate Bus transportation for Extended Weekends

Several of our downstate regions organize bus transportation for the students for the Extended Weekends and some holidays. For details please contact any of the following for more information:

2006/2007 Downstate Bus Coordinators
IMSA to Bloomington/Peoria – Don Driscoll Don_Driscoll@rlicorp.com
IMSA to Springfield/Collinsville – Vangie Hovermale vhovermale@hotmail.com
IMSA to Effingham – Neil and Carrie New naclnew@gmail.com

If you have questions or suggestions about other downstate issues contact Noble Redmon, your downstate coordinator at: redmons4@verizon.net – tel: 618-985-4312

When a Student is ill –

Please remember, when a student is ill (fever, vomiting) they can put everyone at risk of getting sick in such a close community. It is in your child's best interest to return home until they are well. Letting them stay in their room until well is not an option. Their illness can spread to anyone on campus. Please do not call your child in sick for the day and leave them in their dorm room. Parents need to pick up their sick children as soon as possible when notified by ISMA. Inform the school of the time you think you can arrive or if it will be more than two hours, ask that the school call one of the parent volunteers to temporarily take your child home until you arrive.

If you are willing to pick up a student from IMSA needing to be off campus for medical reasons and have them at your home until a parent can arrive, please email Kim Schmitt kimberlyschmitt@aol.com or Barb Kulbida BAMKC52@aol.com .