

**IHS Alumni Association  
Minutes  
Monday, June 14, 2021**

**Meeting Called to Order:** Dale Veverka called the "in person" meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Meeting was held at IHS in the Media Room.

**Board Members and Members in Attendance:** Present: Dale Veverka (70) - President  
Bob Wagner (66) - Treasurer : Don Krolikowski (77) - Webmaster: Pat (Czarniak 60)  
Stephan - Hospitality : Russ Fortlage (59) : Amber (Veverka 07) - Axner - Alumni  
Spectator Editor : Peggy Korecko (88) : Vickie (Wiecek 70) Rich - Recording Secretary

**Minutes from March 8th Alumni Meeting:** Minutes from the March 8th meeting were reviewed and accepted.

**Benjamin Vitron:** The Alumni Association rewards (2) \$500.00 Scholarships yearly. Benjamin Vitron, one of the recipients from the Class of 2021, attended the meeting and asked to speak. He thanked the Association and went on to share, with the members present, how much Independence Schools and its programs had impacted his life. He talked about his future plans to attend Cincinnati University to study Engineering. Ben talked about wrestling and the academic programs made available to him and other students. He said he was forever grateful for the opportunities made available to him and others. Ben went on to answer questions from Alumni..

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bob Wagner provided a summary of the 2020 Financial Report with highlights for reference. There are factors that are affecting 2021 Income & Expenses listed. A. Gift to School - TBD. Last year (2020) the Alumni gave a larger than normal school gift, \$2,500 was presented versus the usual \$750.00 to \$1,500.00. B. Loss of large member donations. C. Loss of Home Days income (and non-solicitation of donation) Bob did Thank Elaine who donated \$500.00 for a student award/gift/recognition IHO Jack Katzenmeyer.

Bob provided a 2021 YTD Financial Report. As of January 2021 there was \$7,952.00 as of June 14 2021 there was \$7,907.86 (a decrease of \$44.14)  
Side note: As of June 30, 2021 there was \$9,267.24 - after gift to school and award checks) **Income** - \$1,460.00 (+ interest) Membership dues paid: \$700.00 (13x5 years = \$520.00 and 18x1 year = \$180.00 Donations: \$760.00 : Elaine \$500.00, Irene Siska \$100.00, Bob \$120.00 (paid in lieu of bill to Association for Ohio Tax filing fee and educator certificates, 4 members @ \$10.00 each = \$40.00 **Expenses** (March-June) \$1,373.45 (+ bank fees) Four checks were written:

\$58.45 Rapidribbons - 50 Legacy Ribbons

\$315.00 Advertisement in 2021 Yearbook (½ page b&w)

\$500.00 Student Award - Benjamin Vitron (not cashed)

\$500.00 Student Award - Josette George - not cashed

**Joe LaBella Scholarship Fund:** The fund has a balance of \$6,603.90. Four \$500.00 awards were presented : **IHS:** Morgan Pascarella , Adam Miklovic and **Cuyahoga**

**Heights:** Monica Mankhaus, Sydney Dyer

**Principal's Report:** Jamie Vanek - Independence Middle School Principal was present and provided the following information:.

Spring Sports were able to be carried out . Mrs. Crooks was awarded "Coach of the Year. The Middle School was able to have a school play and talent show June 2 and 3rd. The atmosphere is positive and going forward the theme is RECHARGE and RESTART. This year Independence High School held their 2021 Commencement Ceremony outside and diplomas were presented to 69 graduating seniors.

**Discussion of Alumni Business and Upcoming Events:** Dale Veverka (70) stated that this year in lieu of singling out one educator of excellence it was decided that 207 Certificates for EDUCATOR of EXCELLENCE would be given to 207 recipients for their outstanding performance and dedication during a worldwide pandemic. These were given to the teachers, the school bus drivers, the cafeteria workers, the classroom aids, the maintenance and cleaning staff , the administrators and the administrative staff. Amber Veverka spoke about the Spring Issue of the Alumni Spectator that would be coming out soon. She asked for articles on anything that would be of interest . Also any updates on class reunions would be appreciated. She is always looking for stories about past IHS memories, etc.....

Don Krolkowski spoke about the website. He reported that between March 9th and June 14th there were 403 users, Primary views were photos and meeting minutes. He noted that 24 were removed as undeliverable.

Home Days was discussed. There was a discussion about having the ALUMNI TENT at HOME DAYS as well as having the ALUMNI BREAKFAST. It was decided NO. Don Krolkowski made the first motion and Bob Wagner made the second motion to not have the ALUMNI Association participate in HOME DAYS this year. Hopefully we can resume the tent and raffles and breakfast in 2022.

There was some discussion on how to generate membership in the Alumni Association. There was also some discussion about making the meetings available via ZOOM along with "in person" as there are some Alumni that live out of town and some who are unable to attend in person and they would like to be a part of the meeting. Don said he would look into that.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Elaine (Wisnieski - 57) Kukawka - Corresponding Secretary  
Membership cards and thank you notes were sent to (2) new members, (5) renewals & 69 graduating students since March 8, 2021. There are 143 paid members. A thank you note was sent to Niecia Spilker for (2) renewal and (2) new memberships for relatives. An email was sent to a member who was interested in helping with Membership. Suggested this member to start with his class & if still interested I would send the roster. Elaine has had no response to the email.  
Reminder: If your dues are due and you do not have email for a reminder you can mail your check to Elaine at:6978 Windward Hill Dr., Brecksville, Ohio 44141 or to the IHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ,6100 Archwood,Independence. 44131.  
Dues are: 1 year \$10.00 or 5 years \$40.00

**Calendar:** General Meeting - Monday - September 13th  
IHS Media Room

**Adjournment:** Don Krolikowski motioned to adjourn.Pat Stephan seconded the motion.No further business to be discussed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm

Submitted by,  
Vickie Rich  
Recording Secretary