



Independence Academy
675 29 Rd Grand Junction, CO 81504
Phone: (970) 254-6850 Fax: (970) 241-2064

Board Minutes
Board of Directors
Monday November 30, 2020
5:00 P.M

Meeting Call to Order:

Role Call :5:12pm

Present

- **Brad Thompson**
- **Abbie Siegmund**
- **Hadassa Berger**
- **Brandy Bogges**

Absent

- **Sherry Price**

I. Staff and Student Celebrations:

- A. Congratulations to Mrs. Eller, Mr. Hamaker, and Mrs. Margie for being awarded the American Furniture Warehouse money in order to design an interactive musical playground installation for students.
- B. Lacey Weber will participate in a dress rehearsal with the League of Charter Schools December 11th in preparation for a presentation she will give in the spring at the League's annual Convention.

II. Public Comment: Time-limited TBA – individuals may make public comment, limited to items on the agenda, and two (2) minutes. The Governing Board asks that each member complete a public comment card, available in the front office, prior to commencement of the meeting. Public comment cards should be given to the Executive Director who will then deliver them to the Governing Board President.

- A. None at this time

III. Approval of the November 2, 2020 Board Minutes.

Motion: Hadassa Berger

Second: Abbie Siegmund

Vote: 4-0

IV. Approval of the October 2020 Financials.

- A. The board inquired into the \$22,000.00 credit that was represented on the financials. Mrs. Gonzalves explained that we used Bond funds at the beginning of the year to purchase 70 Chromebooks which were lost during shipment. We then had to go through a refund process and the funds were credited back. IACS have purchased 70 Chromebooks from a different provider because we already purchased the From the district.
- B. Brandy inquired into office supplies- this question was resolved when Mrs. Gonsalves explained to her that the amount she is referring to is the year to date spending on office supplies.

Motion: Abbie Siegmund

Second: Brandy Bogges

Vote: 4-0

V. Approval of the October Budget.

- A. The board would like for Mrs. Gonzalves to explore naming the “Professional Development” line item to something that more reasonably represents where that money is going. Mrs. Gonzalves will reach out to our accountant to clarify the line item.

Motion: Abbie Siegmund

Second: Hadassa Berger

Vote: 4-0

VI. The board of directors and Mrs. Gonsalves discussed authorization of a payment from Zions to Blyth (filing of a requisition) for the capital construction project.

VII. Executive Director’s Report.

A. Operations:

1. Pizza Thursday will be postponed until after winter break, due to the high numbers of COVID cases.
2. Our transition to online learning before the break was a success. We received a lot of positive feedback.
3. Dr. Sirko released the newest guidelines that all K-12 grade students are required to wear masks during school. The board reviewed the benefits and drawbacks of the mandate and decided that it would be best to follow suit and make the safest decision for the staff and students. Administration will put out communication about the transition to masks for all grade levels with the exception of Pre-K.

B. Instruction/Assessment:

1. We are scheduling information meetings with our 8th graders about the IB program at Palisade Highschool and the STEM program through Central Highschool.
2. Our teachers continue to adapt to online learning and testing with ongoing training and professional development.
3. Administration will begin the UIP- including teacher input and feedback
4. Kati Bennett will attend training for continual renewal of the IACS induction program.

C. Community Outreach, Mrs. Gonsalves

1. IACS was able to provide a turkey dinner to one of our families.

D. Culture, Mrs. Gonsalves

1. COVID burnout is evident in our teachers and students. Many have communicated a feeling of it never ending. Teachers are happy to be back in school and able to see their students in person. Teachers are really working hard for their students and trying to adjust on the fly for the needs of the school year. It is stressful, it is relentless and is taking its toll.
2. The board discussed different strategies to help the staff combat burnout. Some ideas were to look into services provided by Isa such as self care, what fills your cup, what recharges your battery.....

E. Events Calendar- None at this time.

F. Facilities

1. Got the H-vacs cleaned out
2. Brad requested that Tom get pricing on the skid steer the Dodge truck looked at by the next meeting.
3. One water filler has been installed so far. They are scheduled to come in on December 11th and December 18th to install the remaining.

VIII. Discussion and updates on the Building Project-Brad Thompson

- A. The project is going well. Rob is doing a great job. Currently the project is under budget and on time. We are lucky to have such great weather so far. This is the time of year that is very unpredictable and can cause major delays and headaches. Asset is doing an amazing job and accommodating the schools needs exceptionally.

IX. Family Council updates

- A. Family council has closed the virtual christmas store. All purchases will be sent to IACS and will be distributed to individual families
- B. Family council would like to talk with Megan Henry to explore options for a virtual art show at the end of the year.

X. Executive Session CRS Section 24-6-402 -Moved to executive session at 6:34 pm.

C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(f)- Personnel

- Discussion about personal and curriculum changes

C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4) The members of a local public body subject to this part 4, upon the announcement by the local public body to the public of the topic for discussion in the executive session, including specific citation to the provision of this subsection (4) authorizing the body to meet in an executive session and identification of the particular matter to be discussed in as much detail as possible without compromising the purpose for which the executive session is authorized, and the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the quorum present, after such announcement, may hold an executive session only at a regular or special meeting and for the sole purpose of considering any of the following matters; except that no adoption of any proposed policy, position, resolution, rule, regulation, or formal action, except the review, approval, and amendment of

the minutes of an executive session recorded pursuant to subparagraph (II) of paragraph (d.5) of subsection (2) of this section, shall occur at any executive session that is not open to the public.

Adjourned: 7:04 PM

Next Regular Meeting:

- **Date:** Monday January 25, 2020 at 5:00 pm
- **Location:** IACS Commons, 675 29 road, Grand Junction, CO. 81504