



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

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday September 27, 2021**  
**5:00 P.M-Commons Area**

**Meeting Call to Order:**

**Role Call : 5:04 pm**

**Present**

- **Sherry Price**
- **Brad Thompson**
- **Brandy Savoni**
- **Hadassa Berger**
- **Jeremiah Fenske**

**I. Staff and Student Celebrations:**

A. A cheer club was recently started with IACS and has had a good turn out as an additional club.

**II. Public Comment:** Time-limited TBA – individuals may make public comments, 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 August 30, 2021 Board Minutes.**

**Motion:** Hadassa Berger

**Second:** Jeremiah Fenske

**Vote:**4-0-Motion Passes (Sherry did not vote on approval because she was absent at the last meeting)

**IV. Approval of the August Financials:**

A. The board followed up on ESSER II reimbursement. Lisa clarified that the initial reimbursement has been made. The board then inquired about the 20% of ESSER III that is being withheld from the district. Lisa explained that the district's response to her was that the District stated that these funds didn't even have to be given to us and that IACS is lucky they are receiving any of the funds. After a follow up with CDE, Lisa Gonsavles found that Charters need to be actively engaged in the decision making of this 20% of funds and IACS students need to be offered whatever services will be offered through these fund distributions. The board recommended Lisa do the following as a follow up to this situation.

1. If she does not receive an email back from the District in the next day or two, she will reach out to Brian Hill to follow up on the situation.
2. If it is not taken care of in a timely manner by Brian, reach back out to the CDE District 51 representative for next steps regarding laws around ESSER III fund distribution.

**Motion:** Jeremiah Fenske

**Second:** Hadassa Berger

**Vote:** 5-0 Motion Passes

**V. Approval on a new application process for IACS**

A. In response to the OCR Complaints (Office of Civil Rights Complaints) Lisa Gonsalves worked with their legal representatives to bring all procedures up to date with current legislation.

**Motion:** Brad Thompson

**Second:** Brandi Savoni

**Vote:** 5-0-Motion Passes

**VI. Review and possible approval of new fee policies for IACS- This review is being postponed until the next board meeting.**

**VII. Executive Director's Report.**

**A. Operations**

1. Moving forward the Board and the Corporation needs to make decisions on how to separate business and funds so that there is a clear separation between business that is taken care of for the corporation and funds that are made and spent by the corporation (i.e. property manager, separate bank account)
2. The certificate of completion has been sent in, so the construction project is officially completed.
3. There are still draining issues in the field that are being looked at and Rob will follow up with some suggestions on what to do next.
4. The board discussed and agreed to move the October board meeting to November 1st, continue the board meeting as scheduled on November 29th and postpone another board meeting until January 2022.

5. Lisa Gonsalves followed up on purchasing vans vs. updating our currently owned buses. She stated that bringing the current bus up to code will cost approximately \$10,000.00 and purchasing vans will cost approximately \$40,000.00 per van. The board agreed that they would like to move forward with selling the school's vehicles and investing that money into new vehicles.

**B. Instruction/Assessment**

1. The middle school team is embarking on a fish hatchery project which will include hatching eggs in aquariums in the classroom, maintaining their habitat while growing, and releasing the Trout into the Colorado Rivers.
2. IACS is in the process of utilizing a portion of their read act funds to purchase decodable texts. This will replace an outdated primary book room assortment.

**C. Community Outreach**

1. Service club made a substantial amount of money from the Family Council hosted movie night. They plan to take some proceeds to purchase their club shirts and will make a community donation with the rest of the proceeds.
2. Movie night was a huge success and got lots of positive feedback from families.

**D. Culture**

1. The dropoff and pickup loop is becoming much more efficient. It just took a little time for teachers to learn vehicles and parents and students to get used to the routine.
2. The fish naming contest was a success. The new fish are named Lilo and Stitch. The next competition is the best pet costume contest.

**E. Events Calendar**

1. The kickoff for the next International trip through EF tours is on October 6th. The trip will be to Italy in March of 2023.
2. The girls basketball season is wrapping up this week. They have had a season full of learning and growth. Boys basketball is scheduled to start in October.
3. IACS is gearing up for parent- teacher conferences which are the week of October 15th.

**F. Facilities Report**

1. Brad reported on estimations to remove the triangle of grass, road base the area from the large white tent on the North side of the lot, turn a portion of it into parking and use the other portion as an addition dropoff and pickup loop that would move some of the traffic congestion from the main loop in front of the school and move it over to the side of the school. Brad made a point that materials used on this project could be reused and relocated when IACS moves forward during phase three building project.
2. Additional work is being done with Rob Jenkins and Brad Thompson to continue to refine a plan to improve parking, pickup and dropoff and continue this discussion at the next board meeting.

## **VIII. Family Council Updates**

- A. The turnout for movie night was amazing. Thursday night hosted about 100 people, and Friday night was about double in participation. The families loved it, and the clubs that worked concessions made a good amount of money.
- B. Hadassa commented that they buy in from teachers and the rallying support is what made a huge difference in making movie night a success.
- C. Next meeting will be Wednesday September 29th to talk about plans for a possible Trunk or Treat.
- D. Brad agreed to meet with Ron about possibly clearing out portions of the barn to accommodate some sort of Christmas store to offer the students.
  1. Hadassa and Brandi will schedule a meeting with Lisa and Becky to discuss the Christmas store in more depth and make a solidified plan.

## **IX. Executive Session CRS Section 24-6-402 (4)(f)**

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.

### **Next Regular Meeting:**

- **Date:** Monday November 1, 2021 @ 5:00 pm
- **Location:** IACS Commons, 675 29 road, Grand Junction, CO. 81504

**Adjourned: 6:39 pm**