



Independence Academy

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

**Notice and Agenda
Board of Directors
Monday May 24, 2021
5:00 P.M**

Meeting Call to Order: 5:09 pm

Role Call :

Present

- **Brad Thompson**
- **Brandy Savoni**
- **Sherry Price**
- **Hadassa Berger**
- **Abbie Siegmund**

Absent-None

The board took time before starting the regular agenda items to give gifts to the building team for all of their hard work on the building project. The board then took a tour of the new building by the building team.

I. Staff and Student Celebrations:

- A.** Minnie Nielson won teacher of the year and Kerri Birdsong won staff member of the year.
- B.** Cameron Jones received special acknowledgement from the staff for being instrumental in their classrooms.
- C.** Kaitlyn Burris won the golden apple for 4th quarter for her work with the RISE program and stepping up as a leader in the MS.
- D.** IACS brought home \$1,300.00 in awards from the Bank of the West art awards.

- 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 April 26th Board Minutes.

Motion: Abbie Siegmund

Second: Hadassa Berger

Vote: 5-0-motion passes

IV. Discussion and possible approval of the May 10th Work Session Minutes.

Motion: Abbie Siegmund

Second: Brandy Savoni

Vote: 5-0-motion passes

V. Approval of the April Financials.

A. We have almost \$500,000.00 left in the payroll line item at this time and expect to have almost \$300,000 in rollover by year in. This does not include the money we are still waiting to be reimbursed by ESSR I -\$64,000 and ESSR II-\$215,000 mostly for payroll. This is reflected in the 2021-2022 budget.

B. We will have \$474,000 from ESSR III for the 2021-2022 school year, along with \$199,924.55 from ESSR II funds.

C. Capital project line item is reflective on the irrigation system approved in the previous meeting and is taken out of the capital reimbursement line item at the top.

D. Abbie asked if money had been set aside for consideration to parking in the future. Mrs. Gonsalves stated that decisions on how parking will be planned is still based on the CDC releasing new guidelines for the 2021/2022 school year. Mrs. Gonsalves will have a meeting with Rob, the owner's rep. To figure out a game plan for parking.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Abbie Siegmund

Vote: 5-0-motion passes

VI. The board accepted Abbie Siegmunds letter of resignation as a parent representative for the IACS board of directors.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Hadassa Berger

Vote: 5-0-motion passes

VII. The board nominates Jereiah Fenske as the new parent member of the IACS board of directors.

Motion: Abbie Siegmund

Second: Brad Thompson

Vote: 5-0-motion passes

VIII. Approval of the projected 2021/2022 school budget.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Brandy Savoni

Vote: 5-0- motion passes

- IX.** The board approved of the 2021/2022 Lease Agreement with Independence Academy Charter School and Independence Academy Building Corporation in the amount \$333,733.00 effective the first week of June 2021.

Motion: Hadassa Berger

Second: Brandy Savoni

Vote: 5-0- motion passes

X. Executive Director's Report.

A. Operations

1. Standard and Poors liked our COVID risk assessment and even though ratings were preferences with " all ratings will likely take a hit due to COVID" we are holding steady at a BBB-
2. Work session for a five year plan and action steps-The board agreed to a work session in early August to discuss strategic planning and board training.
3. Mrs. Gonsalves will meet with the new board members and go over budget and school procedures to help with the on-boarding process in July before the July board meeting.
4. Middle School Transition call where the topic of conversation was " when are you guys getting a high school" - parents are really excited for the MS changes (cellphones, dress code, and lockers) as well as class choices.
5. State of the School call - went well and we went over the big changes for the school (although attendance was low 11% of our population and stakeholders attended) we covered a lot of information.
6. The school district is trying for a bond measure on the November ballot and asked us if we would like to be a part of it - there is a catch that IACS probably won't be considered a priority and will not be included by them but we maybe able to qualify for more money for capital improvement that we would not have to pay back. The board approved Mrs. Gonsalves to put together a phase three presentation to present at the next District 51 board meeting.
 - a) The board discussed working on relationships with the district and that Sherry will reach out to Brian Hill.

B. Facilities/Maintenance Report

1. Facilities are going well and we will be hiring a new entry level custodian. Hoping to conduct interviews this week. We have already noticed a ramp up in productivity, community, and communication between facilities and other departments. Ron has transitioned over seamlessly. Becky will be taking care of the vendor correspondence from facilities.

C. Instruction/Assessment

1. NWEA scores for our school

- a) Even with this entering the school year with some record low benchmark scores or students reached annual yearly progress in almost all grade levels.

D. Community Outreach, Mrs. Gonsalves

E. Culture, Mrs. Gonsalves

1. We were able to share a continuation with families as our first real community event this year and although there was a lot of wind - we powered through and it was a wonderful ceremony. We also had our end of the year lunch where we announced the teacher and staff member of the year.

VII. Discussion and updates on the Building Project

1. The school has gained a temporary certificate of occupancy and below budget - Used extra funds to order new items for the library and Pre-K.

VIII. Family Council updates

- A. Bento cards-Hadassa stated that even though her social security number is connected to the card and account she was not requesting money. She pointed out that this is a conflict of interest and that Lisa Gonsalves has agreed to place the Bento cards in her name and social security number pending a written agreement between IACS and Lisa Gonsalves.
- B. They are planning to do any and all Family Council events in collaboration with Lisa Gonzalves and Kati Bennett.
- C. They are beginning to plan a strategic plan for a transfer of responsibility of functions and structures for family council.

Moved into executive session at 6:32 pm

IX. Executive Session CRS Section 24-6-402- Student Incident

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 July 26, 2021**
- **Location: IACS Commons, 675 29 road, Grand Junction, CO. 81504**

Adjourned: 7:04 PM