



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

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday July 26, 2021**  
**5:00 P.M-Commons Area**

**Meeting Call to Order: 5:12 pm**

**Role Call :**

**Present**

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

**I. Staff and Student Celebrations:**

**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 May 24, 2021 Board Minutes. Review of the Corporation minutes.**

**Motion:** Brad Thompson

**Second:** Jeremiah Fenske

**Vote:** 4-0-Vote Passes

**IV. Approval of the May, 2021 Financials.**

A. The Board had a conversation with Lisa about the line item Purchase Services- Lisa and the board have decided to pay closer attention to the particular charges from the District and have possible conversations about reimbursement at the end of the year for services not used.

- B. Hadassa talked with the board about the pros and cons of opting out of partnering with the district for Benefits. The board weighed the financial payout against the stability of being partnered with a large entity.
- C. The board would like to keep exploring options and keep an eye on the bottom line for the 2021/2022 school year.
- D. Hadassa requested that Lisa collect comparisons for payroll, benefits, and other salaries from other Charter schools and district schools that are comparative to ours.
- E. The board requested Lisa ask the School Lawyer to analyze the current district contract to find holes, gaps and areas of improvement.

**Motion:** Jeremiah Fenske

**Second:** Hadassa Berger

**Vote:** 5-0-Vote passes

**V. Approval of the June, 2021 Financials.**

**Motion:** Brad Thompson

**Second:** Jeremiah Fenske

**Vote:** 5-0-Vote passes

**VI. Discussion about possibilities of Corporation owned land usage and cleanup.**

- A. Jeremiah suggested doing something different with the acreage driving up to the school. He suggested the easiest way to do this would be to lease out the land to a farmer who would grow hay or alfalfa. This would be through CMU
- B. Another option would be to contact WCC and their culinary institute to see if they would be interested in using the land for their fame to plate program.
- C. The board encouraged Jeremiah to continue talking with contact to flush out the details of maturing the land.
- D. The board had a conversation about renting the house next door to a population such as Physician Assistants or other students, which might be another way to build relationships with CMU and other community partners. The board agreed that they are not interested in renting the house to another employee of IACS and would like to discuss this again moving forward.
- E. Hadassa mentioned that she talked with a city planner in passing and they said that the 29 road cross section with the I70.
- F. Jeremiah will follow up with the Imer family about getting the trees cleaned up in the front of the school.

**VII. Discussion about possibilities of renting out the school facilities to community groups.**

- A. Lisa laid out the challenges to renting the school out and asked for more information about:
  - 1. Maintaining facilities
  - 2. Securing the school grounds
  - 3. Maintaining schedules so that school events and other activities will not impact each other.

- B. Jeremiah will reach out to Brian Hill and get more information on how the district handles renting out facilities to other organizations.

**VIII. Discussion about the school calendar.**

- A. No changes will be made to the school calendar.
- B. Brandy brought up the fact that some parents are missing information and that they would like to look at different avenues of communication. Possibly sending out a survey about preferred communication.

**IX. Executive Director's Report.**

- A. IACS was approved and will be participating in the free lunch program this year with lunch lizard but that also means no pizza Thursdays.
- B. We were denied to be included in the D51 bond initiative but it was a great opportunity to meet with everyone and express our desire to be more involved with the district and also discuss our needs as a charter school
- C. Traffic patterns have changed slightly - with the new regulations we are able to allow parents to park and walk up to pick up student and staff parking has been moved.
- D. Traffic pattern change from Rob/bond money overage
- E. Credit cards from Chase bank - monthly pay off -no balance carry over - cash back bonus option and different credit cards for departments will be available
- F. Middle school PD was very successful and we are looking forward to an innovative and positive year.
- G. Selling all unused cars/busses - no one will do our bus inspections anymore. This could open up the possibility to buy vans so we do not need a commercial driver

**X. Discussion and updates on the Building Project**

- A. The board will have another meeting to discuss the remainder of the bond money and how it should be distributed.
  - 1. Possible purchase of a fleet of vans.

**Ended regular session at 7:12pm**

**Moved into executive session at 7:12 pm**

**XI. Executive Session CRS Section 24-6-402 (4)(f) -Purchase Services**

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.

**Board moved back into regular session at 7:34 pm.**

XII. Board moved to approve a payment to TNT Construction for Brad Thompson's work on the pump throughout the months of June and July, 2021.

**Next Regular Meeting:**

- **Date: Monday August 30, 2021**
- **Location: IACS Commons, 675 29 road, Grand Junction, CO. 81504**

**Adjourned: 7:40 pm.**