



Independence Academy

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

Board Meeting Minutes
Monday December 5, 2022
5:00 P.M-Commons Area

Meeting called to order: 5:11 pm

Role Call:

Present:

Sherry Price

Jeremiah Fenske

Hadassa Berger -called in

Brad Thompson

Brandy Savoni-Joined at 5:30 pm

I. Staff and Student Celebrations:

A. Megan Henry celebrated the reception at the public library for the art work with approximately 65 people in attendance.

- 1. The EF Tour is going very well and the travel group is growing. 33 Students are signed up to go on the Japan trip in 2024.**
- 2. She also received 2 grants to go towards professional development art supplies.**
- 3. Mrs. Henry took students to CMU to Artober and it was a great opportunity for students to see what the local university has to offer our students.**

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 October 24, 2022 Board Minutes.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Jeremiah Fenske

Vote: 4-0 Vote passes

IV. Approval of the October 2022 Financials.

- A. Lisa apprised the board about new information released about universal Preschool funds and how that will positively impact families paying for full day Preschool.
- B. There is also a projected 9% PPR increase for next school year. This could lead to approximately an additional \$400,000.00 to the annual budget.
- C. Free lunch was just passed so IACS will no longer be footing the bill for students to eat lunch everyday beginning in January.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Jeremiah Fenske

Vote: 4-0 vote passes

V. Approval of moving forward with the auditorium project independently up to \$6,000.00.

- A. Sherry asked if IACS would still be collaborating with the community partnerships that were previously discussed. Mrs. Gonsalves confirmed that all community partnerships are still planned to move forward.
- B. Jeremiah asked if the auditorium would be separate from the rest of the school. Mrs. Gonslaves explained that there are many different ways that this may be designed, but that space would only be used by the community partners after school hours.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Jeremiah Fenske

Vote: 4-0 vote passes

VI. Approval of the adoption of the HMM Literacy Curriculum Kindergarten through fifth grade for the amount of \$55,000.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Jeremiah Fenske

Vote: 5-0 vote passes

VII. Continued discussion about the purchase of vans.

- A. Brandy briefed the board on what she found out about the purchase of mini buses and vans. Mini Buses are 18-24 months out for orders. Vans could be purchased within a couple months.
- B. Sherry voiced that many entities have moved away from the 15 passenger vans because of safety concerns and new safety standards.
- C. Brad inquired about being locked in to the price we negotiate now or if there will be additional negotiation when they can actually get the mini buses in stock.
- D. The board would like Brandy to continue to negotiate moving forward with 2, 12 passenger vans and possibly putting a down payment on mini buses.
- E. Brandy inquired if the dealership cannot provide 12 passenger vans if the board would be interested in purchasing 15 passenger vans. The board said they would **be** interested

to purchase two 15 passengers vans as long as it was a short term purchase. The board agreed to buy something under 50,000 miles and under \$60, 000 each.

VIII. Update and discussion about shade structure replacement in the middle school pickup area.

- A. Brad is leaning towards a Pole Barn design to control costs and provide protection from the elements.

IX. Executive Director's Report.

A. Operations

1. No board meeting until Jan 30 2023 - please call with any questions or concerns in the meantime.
2. You may want to ask Brandy about Vans - or get the story from Becky and discuss.
3. Renewal paperwork was turned in on November 28th and we should hear back by February if we are approved - which I was told shouldn't be an issue from the Superintendent. If we want to switch to state the application will be due in May - I would advise just moving forward through the district unless they are unable to meet our needs (which our lawyer will review on our behalf) . I will review and prepare the state application incase. My major concerns are mostly financial with tech and special education, along with the larger admin costs. We are working on our relationship with the district currently and it seems to be moving forward positively.
4. Superintendent visit - he is really interested in what we are doing and may come to the game day in December. He spent about an hour at IACS, got a tour and we discussed charters and a high school at IACS - which he seems to believe would be positive. He also liked our programs and team teaching model.He tweeted about his visit to our school and was very positive.
5. We had our first lockdown of the year with law enforcement and received a great review.

B. Instruction/Assessment

1. CMAS training is scheduled for the beginning of February.

C. Community Outreach

1. We will now be offering a class that makes props for not only our theater department but also for our community partner "The Theatre Project" - their next children's show will be Aladdin, we will be giving tickets to the community as part of our partnership.
2. We delivered a Thanksgiving Meal to a family

3. We purchased and gave away tickets for the kids production of Moana - with the The Theatre Project

D. Events Calendar

1. Ornament painting December 1st
2. Christmas Store 5-8th
3. December construction game day coming December 15th
4. Concert Dates 14th and 15th of December
5. Girls basketball in December and January
6. Holiday party this Thursday December 8th. 6-10 pm.

E. Facilities Report

1. We need to replace the toilets in the H because they are just running and causing our water bill to be really high- This job will be completed within the week.

X. 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.

Adjourned: 6:28 pm