



Independence Academy

675 29 Rd Grand Junction, CO 81504

Phone: (970) 254-6850 Fax: (970) 241-2064

Board Meeting Minutes

January 30,2023

5:00 P.M-Commons Area

Meeting called to order: 5:02 pm

Role Call:

Present:

Jeremiah Fenske

Hadassa Berger -called in

Brad Thompson

Brandy Savoni

Absent:

Sherry Price

I. Staff and Student Celebrations:

- Ava and Keira are the middle school 1 st and 2 nd place winners for the Youth Art Month annual contest to redesign the Colorado Flag. This is a state-wide art contest and their work has been photographed to be on display at the state capital in Denver Colorado. Prizes are still to be announced in March, but I am excited for them!

- We have 4 IACS students who are now published artists in the Colorado Creates book series. This is an annual state wide art contest that asks for works of art that represent our state. Maiya, Hank, Makaila and Kaysen all created works of art that were selected out of hundreds of entries from across the state K-12 th grade. These books are sold all over the world on Amazon and proceeds go to teachers across the state that have little to no funds for supplies for their classrooms.

- Lastly, we have two artists who represented the IACS art program along with Mrs. Gonsalves at the Cherry Creek art festival this last July. I applied for a second time to receive a \$500 grant to purchase a work of art for our school's fine arts permanent collection. Hank and Kenda

took the time to travel over to Denver to attend the event with Lisa and purchased this for our school. This is the second grant and work of art that we now own.

- Megan Henry is receiving an award at the White Iced district event for her excellence in education.

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 December 5, 2022 Board Minutes.

Motion: Jeremiah Fenske

Second: Brandy Savoni

Vote: 4-0 Vote passes

IV. Approval of the November 2022 Financials.

Motion: Brandy Savoni

Second: Hadassa Berger

Vote: 4-0 Vote passes

V. Approval of the December 2022 Financials.

Motion: Hadassa Berger

Second: Brandy Savoni

Vote: 4-0 Vote passes

VI. Final approval of the playground equipment purchase for 3-5 grades in the amount of \$86,786.00.

A. The board discussed capital construction funds as it sits current in the budget. They wanted to ensure that the additional \$6,786.00 would not put us in overage in the budget.

B. The board would prefer to lock in the price for the equipment now and install over the summer.

Motion: Jeremiah Fenske

Second: Brandy Savoni

Vote: 4-0 Vote Passes

VII. Approval of the 2023/2024 Independence Academy Academic Calendar.

Motion: Brandy Savoni

Second: Jeremiah Fenske

Vote: 4-0 Vote Passes

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

- A. The board is looking to purchase a pole barn structure that has at least 100 students.
- B. The materials would be basic with lumber and metal roofing and siding. Possible dimensions of 25 x 50.

IX. Executive Director's Report.

A. Operations

1. The board discussed canceling the board meeting for February and will resume meetings on March 27th.
2. The charter renewal visit went great and so far no questions about our application. They did mention they would like to work with us to ensure the success of IACS starting up a highschool.
3. Lisa Gonsalves applied for a workforce grant for the auditorium, requesting 5 million dollars. She will also be applying for the National Endowment of the Arts grant this month.
4. The annual Investor call will happen in February if any of the board members are interested in attending.

B. Instruction/Assessment

1. Kati Bennett is working with teachers and families about ways to increase awareness of the benefit of opting in to standardized testing as we begin to gear up for CMAS.

C. Community Outreach

1. February the administration will meet with Blythe to get a floor plan of the new auditorium. Our community partners will be present for the meeting.

D. Culture

1. Employee intent to return forms went out and have all been returned-the feedback is that people enjoy working for IACS and intend to return.

E. Events Calendar

1. Open House this Friday 11/6
2. Honor Choir performance on February 2nd at 7:00 pm at Fruita High School.
3. A literacy night in is the works and will be in the coming month

4. The middle school dance is scheduled for February 10th at IACS.

F. Facilities Report

1. Brad inquired about how facilities are doing. The board discussed snow removal and possibly purchasing a snowblower for the upcoming year. Brad suggested a snowblower attachment and brush wheel for the skid steer.

Regular Session Adjourned: 6:12 pm

X. Executive Session CRS Section 24-6-402 (4)(f) Personnel

Moved into executive session at 6:17 pm

Moved out of executive session at 6:44 pm

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.