



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

Board Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2023
5:00 P.M-Commons Area

Meeting called to order: 5:14 pm

Role Call:

Present:

Sherry Price

Brad Thompson

Brandi Savoni

Jermiah Fenske

Absent:

Hadassa Berger

I. Staff and Student Celebrations:

- A. The art department received two grants in the last week. Mrs. Balzer received a D51 grant to attend a workshop in Taos, New Mexico, and Megan Henry received another Cherry Creek art purchase grant, so chosen students will attend the Aspen art show again this summer and purchase an art piece to add to our growing display at IACS.
- B. The most recent Trip to Italy by staff and students was a huge success and they are looking forward to the trip next Spring Break to Japan.
- C. Megan Henry also celebrated passing a big exam that she had to complete as part of her masters program and she is excited to keep on her journey of getting her masters degree.
- D. Megan Henry recently submitted a grant application for an art installation to be put in the IACS roundabout. The grant is for \$15, 000 and the artist is Pavia who is a local artist.

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 January 30, 2023 Board Minutes.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Jeremiah Fenske

Vote:4-0 vote passes

IV. Approval of the January 2023 Financials.

Motion: Brad Thompson

Second: Brandi Savoni

Vote: 4-0 vote passes

V. Approval of the February 2023 Financials.

Motion: Brandi Savoni

Second: Jeremiah Fenske

Vote: 4-0 vote passes

VI. Discussion about teacher housing.

- A. Lisa Gonslaves thinks it may be a good time and opportunity to turn the current house that is owned by the corporation into affordable housing for teachers.
- B. If the board went forward with this idea an initial step would be to confer with the lawyer and understand the parameters of a move like this.
- C. The board thinks this could be possible if targeting a 60% AMI. This would be to support single adults or small families.
- D. The board would also like to explore different types of housing- townhouses, duplexes, tiny homes....
- E. Sherry suggested that Lisa meet with Ashley Chambers to get more information about the process of building and offering subsidized housing. Sherry will put Lisa in contact with her this week.
- F. Brandi Savoni voiced her concerns about the cost of building and how long it would take to recoup the funds.
- G. The board would like for Lisa to explore this concept more and get more information to bring back to the board.

VII. Executive Director's Report.

A. Operations

1. Finalist to the Colorado Opportunity Fund grant and could possibly get up to 5 million dollars to go towards the auditorium project.
2. Lisa Gonsalves has begun looking into mod. to add if the highschool is approved.

B. Instruction/Assessment

1. CMAS starts on April 10th

C. Community Outreach

1. Phoenix Family is sponsoring Kona Ice for the entire school and teachers on April 27th.

D. Culture

1. Change for Change will launch this week and will go towards supporting homeless students in the valley with snacks and other essential items. The 7th grade leadership team is heading this project.

E. Events Calendar

1. Robotic build day and competition days are coming up, sponsored by Alpine Bank.
2. Music and Art festival on May 12 from 4-8.
3. IACS is hosting their first ever theater camp over the summer "Finding Nemo"

VIII. 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: 6:31 pm