



Independence Academy

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Board Meeting Agenda

March 31, 2025

5:00 P.M-Commons Area

Brought to order: 5:05 pm

Present:

- **Brad Thompson**
- **Thomas Gibson**
- **Lisa Sutherland**
- **Burke Martin**
- **Jane Pizem**
- **Hadassa Berger**

I. Staff and Student Celebrations:

- Megan Henry successfully took 67 people to 3 countries and didn't lose any! Best TD's, great weather, and food, if you like potatoes!
- I would still love to offer students the opportunity to have an international trip for 2026... Greece.
- 4 IACS students are finalists in the Mesa County I VOTED sticker contest- I sent out the link today in my newsletter to families and a separate email to staff. 7th – Jacob, Gemma, & Penelope 8th – Jo Hansen
- Seven students were published in the Colorado Creates Book series that gets sold on Amazon, and proceeds go to underfunded art classrooms in Colorado. This last Fall, they had extra funds and gave me \$250 to buy acrylic paint and kneaded erasers. 8th - Karlee, Bo, Ashlyn, Brooklynn 7th - Penelope 6th - Valerie and Gabriela
- Today, an email notified me that my application to the Cherry Creek Art Festival was accepted again! So, 3 students and a chaperone will get to go to the festival and be handed \$500 to purchase a professional work of art for our permanent IACS art collection.
- Amazing field trip to the Art Center for my Advanced 7th-grade artists. They learned portrait photography, a Latin dance, and how to throw on a pottery wheel.
- Art Source – Got a full scholarship to attend their intensive artist workshop over the summer, but there was a conflict in my schedule- taking an adult group to the Netherlands and Norway.
- Ashlyn Warriner and Blake Rosling are the CMU students of the quarter for IACS.

- 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, before the 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 February 24, 2025 Board Minutes.

Motion: Hadassa Berger

Second: Burke Martin

Vote: 5-0 vote passes

IV. Approval of the February 2025 Financials.

- A. Jane Pizem inquired about the E-rate money on the financials, and Lisa Gonsalves explained to her what the E-rate money is, how it is distributed, and what it can be used for.

Motion: Burke Martin

Second: Thomas Gibson

Vote: 5-0 vote passes

V. Approval of Band Program Funding.

- A. Lisa Gonsalves briefed the board on funding the band program at IACS. She proposed a budget of 150,000.00 to get the program started. Thomas Gibbs voiced concern over not wanting to underfund the new program. Hadassa Berger suggested that students rent some instruments if IACS lacks enough to get the program off the ground.

Motion: Hadassa Berger

Second: Burke Martin

Vote: 5-0 vote passes

VI. Executive Director's Report.

A. Operations

1. Hired new admin - Audrey Neumiller - will have her visit next board meeting
2. Hired new team members for the create program and a band teacher
3. Budgeting for next year is the mess funding is currently in - contracts go out next week, but we will have every employee sign a document that says things may change.
4. The library will be transformed into a multimedia space beginning the 2025/2026 school year.

B. Instruction/Assessment

1. The CMAS schedule has been revamped this year, and most of the testing will be completed in one week.

C. Community Outreach

1. Art and music festival /celebration of learning May 9, 2025
2. Meeting with the boys who broke into our building on 4/2/25 for community service hours at IACS. The children will be expected to complete 100 hours of community service for IACS between April-July of 2025.

D. Facilities Report

1. Looking at building another shade structure for middle school (over the summer)
2. Updates on the capitol construction
 - a) Asbestos mitigation is complete, and the crew is now finishing up removing items that cannot be in the final demolition of the house.

VII. 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: 6:10 pm