

**Board of Governors Regular Meeting
Irvington Community Schools, Inc.**

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Irvington Preparatory Academy
5751 E. University Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Pursuant to article II, section 3 of the bylaws of Irvington Community School, Inc. (the “corporation”), a regular meeting of the corporation’s Board of Governors was held on February 26, 2019, in the cafeteria of Irvington Preparatory Academy, 5751 E. University Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219.

Ms. Suzanne Koehler presided over the meeting and, finding that proper notice of the meeting had been given under I 5-14-1.5 et seq., called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

The following members were present and available to vote on matters presented to the Board: Suzanne Koehler, Chair; John Britain, Vice-Chair; Tom Lannan, Treasurer; Amy Johnson, Secretary; Carrie Kriech, member; Ryan Wilson, member; Richard Berger, member; Keith Huehls, member; Carlos Ramirez, member; Leona Frank, member.

ICS staff in attendance included Tim Mulherin, Chief Executive Officer; Harold Allen, Chief Financial Officer; Deanna Dehner, ICES Principal; Loryn Venekamp, ICMS Principal; Jana Goebel, IPA Principal; James Welter, Director of Testing, Data, and Curriculum; and several ICS staff and community members.

I. Opening Items

- A. With all nine Board members in attendance, Ms. Koehler observed there was a quorum present to transact business and called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.
- B. Ms. Koehler presented the minutes from the January 22, 2019, meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. No opposition was noted. Minutes were approved.

II. Chair Report

- A. Ms. Koehler reported on the status of the ongoing corporate strategic planning process. The Strategic Pillars have been identified and associated goals are being developed by members of the Strategic Planning Working Group, comprised of ICS staff and Board members. The upcoming Board of Directors annual retreat on Saturday, March 16, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., will largely focus on strategic planning, which will be facilitated by consultant Mary Anna Weber, an Indiana University at Indianapolis Executive Education faculty member.

III. Academic Excellence Committee Report

- A. Mr. Welter outlined current practices at ICS in each of the five components of the High Ability Program, as defined by the Indiana Department of Education, and highlighted areas needing improvement in the coming years.

IV. Advancement Committee Report

- A. Mr. Britain provided an update on the ICS Open planning to date. He shared that this year’s funding would be dedicated to new school signage. Corporate signage to be located at the

middle school on the grounds facing Arlington Avenue would be the initial funding target, with additional funds raised going toward signage at the other two ICS campuses.

- B. The January ICS Pacer game fundraiser results have not been finalized yet per the Pacers office. Funds raised from this event will support the purchase of volleyball standards for the girls high school team.
- C. Mr. Britain indicated that the annual Discount Card fundraiser sales were strong and were trending toward surpassing the previous year's total.

V. Finance Committee Report

- A. CFO Harold Allen provided an overview of the January financials covering cash flow, the balance sheet, income statement, ratios (per OEI requirements), and the capital and maintenance items list update.
- B. Attorney Alan Brown of Frost Todd Brown presented on the lawsuit under way against the Indiana Department of Education per several of his public charter school clients. The suit claims that the IDOE owes back tuition to these schools based upon "breach of contract" per the legal agreement that charters contend they have entered into with the state. The Board needs to weigh the decision to potentially join the suit either in a class action or as an independent plaintiff. ICS stands to gain approximately \$337,000 plus interest should there be a favorable court decision. Of note, ICS benefited from the Common Loan debt forgiveness per state legislation in 2013, having nearly \$3 million in debt forgiven. Although a somewhat separate issue, this is part of the overall consideration as to whether to move ahead with legal action. ICS corporate legal counsel Alex Curlin was in attendance and provided additional context. The ICS Finance Committee will further consider this decision and make a recommendation at the April Board of Governors meeting.

VI. Governance Committee Report

- A. Ms. Johnson reported that work continues on revising the corporate bylaws.
- B. Mr. Mulherin briefly commented on the ongoing project to remove Board documents from Board on Track to be stored in Google Docs. He is currently working on this himself as time permits. All Board members should have access to these documents in Google Docs.
- C. Mr. Mulherin also reported that all Board policies had been collected and the list had been reviewed by Ms. Curlin and former Board member Leona Frank more than a year ago. The gaps in policy were minimal, and the several missing policies per Ms. Curlin were drafted and approved by the Board. The Board still needs to officially retire outdated policies through a resolution.

VII. CEO Report

- A. Mr. Mulherin provided a brief overview of the 10-Year Review outcome, which is part of the pre-charter renewal process with ICS's authorizer, the Mayor's Office of Education Innovation. The review is based upon Core Question 4: *Is the school providing the appropriate conditions for success?* The evaluation covered curriculum, pedagogy, standards-based instruction, human resources, mission comprehension, school climate, and communication with parents and students. Research was based on focus groups with students, staff and parents; interviews with

school administrators; and classroom observations in each school. In 21 sub-categories, ICS “Met Standard” 19 times; “Approached Standard” in one sub-category – ICES differentiation of instruction and core learning objectives focus concerns; and “Did Not Meet Standard” in one area — IPA curriculum maps and differentiation of instruction concerns, which was being addressed by Ms. Goebel and satisfied OEI’s concerns.

- B. Mr. Mulherin provide a legislative update. Concerning facilities funding in the education section of the state budget bill, HB 1001, the Institute for Quality Education (IQE) and the Indiana Charter School Network (ICSN) lobbyists feel confident that charters will receive \$1,000 per student (a \$500 per student increase) this session. The proposed increase passed in the House. Overall K-12 spending increases were approved in the House at 2.1% in 2020 and 2.2% in 2021.

The Teacher Pension Liability proposal in HB 1001 will pay off the Indiana teacher pension liability (\$150 million). This stands to lower ICS’s requirement to match 7.5% in the Teacher Retirement Fund, with a proposed reduction to roughly 5%. We will look to increase teacher compensation should this occur.

HB 1641 Charter School Matters: inclusion of language has been made to clarify that charter schools may have police departments. Also, our lobbyists are “looking for a home” for the provision allowing intergovernmental transfer of property (may well be included in HB 1641 language), relative to the issue facing IPA at this time.

- C. The Urban Land Institute study results were presented by Mr. Mulherin, using a slide deck shared by the institute with local residents, business owners, school leaders, and nonprofit groups concerning redeveloping the Irvington Plaza and the former Ford manufacturing plant on Kitley Avenue. ICS is supportive of the concept and will continue to track progress on this proposed critical urban renewal project.
- D. Written copies of the Principals’ Report and the Community Engagement Report were distributed to all Board members; Mr. Mulherin covered the highlights.

VIII. New Business:
None

IX. Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The ICS Board of Governors will meet for its annual retreat on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at Irvington Preparatory Academy, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.