

Board of Governors Regular Meeting
Irvington Community Schools, Inc.

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

Irvington Preparatory Academy
Cafeteria
5751 East University Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Pursuant to article II, section 5 of the bylaws of Irvington Community School, Inc. (the “corporation”), a regular meeting of the corporation’s board of governors was held on June 25, 2019, in the cafeteria at the Irvington Preparatory Academy, 5751 East University Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46219.

Ms. 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 6:03 p.m.

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

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

- I. Welcome and Establishment of Quorum
With all nine board members in attendance, Ms. Koehler observed there was a quorum present to transact business and called the meeting to order.
- II. Review May Board Meeting Minutes
 - a. Meeting minutes from May were presented and approved. (See vote matrix.)
- III. Chair Report – Suzanne Koehler
Ms. Koehler provided documents from the OEI workshop she attended.
 - a. Strategic Planning Update (Suzanne Koehler)
Mr. Allen and Ms. Venekamp spoke to their respective pillars – Financial and Culture. Board members were provided a handout about the ICS Vision Statement which included the four pillars, the pillar goal statement, and the objectives for each pillar.

Because Advancement is part of the Finance pillar, in an effort to expand capacity, Ms. Koehler inquired about looking to start a part-time Advancement Director until the budget can support a full-time position.

Ms. Venekamp spoke to the Restorative Practices’ objective and confirmed that the leadership from all three schools have already met once to determine best methods across

the three schools for the sake of consistency. Mr. Lannan asked how the staff introduces these practices to parents so they can use the same type of practices in their home. ICS staff has been trained to watch for opening statements such as “I don’t know what to do with my child.”

Ms. Koehler reported this document was sent to our strategic planning consultant, Mary Anna Weber, and she complimented the work. The next steps are to assign timelines and measurements for each task.

b. Back Tuition Lawsuit Update (SK)

A demand letter was sent by ICS legal counsel, Alex Curlin, to the Indiana Department of Education for \$377k. The state’s written response was “we will not pay this amount but we will be happy to meet with you.” There was continued discussion around filing the back-tuition lawsuit. A vote was taken (see vote matrix) and the motion passed to proceed with the lawsuit filing.

c. Board Member Recruiting (SK)

Ms. Koehler reminded all board members to be thinking about new potential board members. A recruitment event will be held in the fall. We need to define the specifications we want/need in board members along with reviewing current board members’ term dates and desire to stay on the board.

IV. OEI Report

a. 2019 – 2020 Performance Framework Updates (Brian Dickey)

Mr. Dickey, OEI’s Deputy Director, presented *Core Question 3: Governance* from the OEI accountability framework and highlighted the increased expectations of its charter school boards.

V. Academic Excellence Report

a. NWEA Demographics and Results (James Welter)

Mr. Welter took the board through a presentation on the NWEA scores. He shared data about the overall NWEA growth over the past several years along with demographic breakdowns. Per ICS’s academic goals with OEI, 54% is our “meets expectations” target. Overall growth improvements from year over year were significant and laudable, reaching 66% in combined growth grades K-8. Elementary and middle school leadership has made a concerted effort to cultivate teacher awareness and appreciation for standardized testing metrics. As well, Mr. Welter was very intentional in going to all classrooms to encourage and congratulate the students and staff on NWEA results.

Regarding the Academic Excellence Committee in general, Mr. Mulherin would like to assess this committee to find areas to get more traction. Ms. Koehler suggested adding parents. The committee met several times in the first semester but without state data nor a more purposeful direction, it has not met since February. As a side note, Ms. Koehler asked if Mr. Welter could add our Restorative Practices data into the reports.

VI. Finance Committee Report

a. May Financials (Harold Allen)

Mr. Allen shared the May financials and took the board through the highlights.

b. 2019-2020 Budget Approval (HA)

Mr. Allen presented the revised proposed budget based on the board feedback from the May meeting and covered the highlights. He confirmed the changes he made to the proposed budget did not affect the teachers or the principals.

A motion was made to approve the 2019-2020 budget, seconded, and approved (see vote matrix).

VII. CEO Report

a. School Signage Project Update (Rick Berger)

Mr. Berger is obtaining campus drawings from Mr. Allen to pass onto a local architect to assist in the project. Mr. Berger anticipates that he and school representatives will meet with the principal of local architectural firm One Ten Studio in the next several weeks. Notably, Mr. Berger is providing his time pro bono for this project.

b. Other Project Updates and Related Schools News (Tim Mulherin)

The codification project with The Mind Trust is well under way. This effort will respect ICS's teacher autonomy, a historical strength, while developing a pedagogical framework for new teachers along with those who may struggle. The codification project is noted in the current strategic planning effort, which will provide a performance roadmap for the next three school years.

Restorative Practices

IPA Art teacher Luke Lofland has been named the Restorative Practices Specialist for the school corporation. Mr. Lofland is well versed in this process, having received extensive training from the International Institute for Restorative Practice as well as having significant school-based experience.

For the just-completed school year, the corporation experienced a record low in expulsions – just 10 – compared with the usual annual average in the twenties. Referrals to the Dean at ICMS were reduced by 40%. ICES experienced approximately a 30% drop in referrals. This can be directly attributed to the introduction of Restorative Practices. Implicit Bias training is planned for back-to-school professional development in July for all ICES and ICMS staff.

Commencement

It was noted that 70% of the 2019 IPA graduating class participated in Service Learning, double that of the previous graduating class. Blake Johnsons gave an outstanding commencement address. The 2020 IPA Commencement is Saturday, June 6, 2020. A search is on for a commencement speaker.

Board on Track

Mr. Mulherin has been given access to the ICS BOT account until July 15. He is engaged in pulling all archived ICS documents from BOT into Google Docs.

IPA Deed

Progress, though slow, is being made per OEI's executive director, Patrick McAlister. He has

approached the Marion County Commissioners on behalf of ICS> The current 15-year lease runs out in 6 years.

Enrollment Marketing

A brief report was provided regarding the overall marketing effort. Radio spots are running on two local stations, one targeting Hispanic listeners. Two billboards are posted in the greater Irvington area and are relocated each month. Yard signs have been distributed throughout the three primary (and contiguous) ZIP Codes. Print ads have been appearing in *The Weekly View*, and ongoing Facebook marketing is occurring. As well, ICS is, as customary, participating in the Irvington Farmers Market.

Assistant Principals

For the sake of improved organizational leadership consistency, all three schools will have an assistant principal for the coming school year.

VIII. Other Business

- a. Ms. Koehler will be sending out an information request to all board members. There will be an Executive Board Meeting on Tuesday, August 6, at 5:30 p.m. at IPA.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The next Board of Governors Meeting will be in the IPA Dining Hall on Tuesday, August 27, 2019, at 6 p.m.