

Board of Governors Regular Meeting
Irvington Community Schools, Inc.

Tuesday, October 22, 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 October 22, 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 6:05 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; Carlos Ramirez, member; Amy Johnson, member; Keith Huehls, member; and Ryan Wilson, member.

ICS leadership in attendance included Tim Mulherin, Chief Executive Officer; Loryn Venekamp, ICMS Principal; Deanna Dehner, ICES Principal; Chris Ashmore, Director of IT; and several ICS staff and community members.

I. Opening Items

a. Record Attendance and Guests

Guests included John and Danielle Giannerini, both teachers at ICS. Mr. Giannerini attended due to his presentation to the board. Jodi Lannan, former ICS employee and potential committee/board member and Kristin Grimme from the MindTrust were present as well.

b. Call the Meeting to Order

With eight board members in attendance, Ms. Koehler observed there was a quorum present to transact business and called the meeting to order.

c. Review September Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from September were presented and approved. (See vote matrix.)

II. Chair Report

a. Tuition Recovery Lawsuit Update (Suzanne Koehler)

ICS legal counsel Alex Curlin provided a Tuition Recovery Lawsuit update in form of a memorandum. According to the memo, the Court of Appeals (COA) heard oral arguments on September 9th and Ms. Curlin did attend. The COA upheld the decision. Per Ms. Curlin, the involved charter schools have 30 days to decide to ask the Indiana Supreme Court to review the case. That occurs October 24th.

b. OEI Core Question 3 (Suzanne Koehler)

Ms. Koehler provided a copy of OEI's Core Question 3 evaluation to the board. Overall, the evaluation was positive.

III. CEO Report

a. C-PEN Demonstration (John Giannerini)

IPA Special Education teacher John Giannerini purchased two of these reading comprehension assistance devices for his students' use courtesy of a donation received on a DonorsChoose page he recently posted. An anonymous ICS Board member provided a generous donation to cover the cost of this purchase. The hope is to have a total of six C-PENS at IPA.

b. Mind Trust Presentation (Kristin Grimme)

Kristin Grimme, Senior Vice President of School Incubation at The Mind Trust (TMT), was invited to present an overview of the work of TMT in light of the several approaches over the past two years by TMT and IPS for Irvington Community Schools to consider becoming an IPS Innovation Network School. TMT aims to provide every student in Indianapolis with access to a high-quality, world-class education. TMT focuses on three key pillars: 1) growing high quality schools, 2) investing in world-class talent and supporting schools to succeed and 3) engaging the community and advancing policy.

At present, ICS is considering entering into a preliminary discussion with IPS concerning an Innovation Network arrangement pertaining to expansion of the current number of middle school seats. This is purely an exploratory step and does not commit ICS whatsoever to joining the IPS Innovation Network.

c. School Signage Project Update (Tammi Hughes/Rick Berger)

Ms. Hughes and Mr. Berger were unable to attend the board meeting. Mr. Mulherin reported, per information from Ms. Hughes, that the current D4 zoning will not pose a challenge/obstacle for ICS in moving ahead with this project. Digital signage will not be used per local ordinance, which is fine for the purposes of this project. The next step is to get an agreement signed with the design firm. The goal is to have the middle school corporate signage, the first stage of the all-campus signage improvement project, by April.

d. Commencement Speaker (Tim Mulherin)

Mr. Mulherin reported that three speaking candidates have been identified at present. Mr. Ramirez, board member, has reached out to an NFL referee with whom he is acquainted. Another option brought to the table is Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett. The third option is Kyle Clark, who was the first class President of IPA and now serves in the U.S. Army as a staff sergeant. Notably, IPA will celebrate its 10th graduating class in 2020.

IPA administration, as is the school's commencement speaker selection custom, determined that its preferred candidate is Mr. Clark. Mr. Mulherin thanked Mr. Ramirez for his speaker suggestion and outreach, and it was noted that his contact may well be asked to speak at the Senior Luncheon preceding the graduation in June.

- e. Halloween Festival (Tim Mulherin)
Mr. Mulherin reminded everyone of the Historic Irvington Halloween Festival this coming weekend. The school will have two booths (#41 and #42) located across from Wyliepalooza Ice Cream shop. The festival is expecting 60,000 people, which will be a record. Mr. Mulherin indicated that event parking will be available at IPA for a donation to the school. He also provided an updated ICS Fact Sheet for the board, which will be available for distribution at the Halloween Festival.
- f. IPA Alumna Personal News (Tim Mulherin)
Mr. Mulherin informed the board that Jamie Scott's mother passed away this week while on a cruise with her family, including Ms. Scott. Ms. Scott is an alumnus of IPA's first graduating class in 2010, a member of the Advancement Committee, head of the Alumni Association, and her daughter attends ICES.
- g. Google Docs Overview and ICS Email Accounts (Chris Ashmore)
ICS IT Director Chris Ashmore provided instruction on accessing the ICS Google Drive as well as Outlook email. To access the Google Docs, each board member needs to have his/her ICS username and password. Ms. Kriech will send the link for the Google Docs board folder out again to all board members.
- h. Principals Report (Tim Mulherin)
Mr. Mulherin presented the Principals' report for the board's review.

IV. Governance Committee Report

- a. Board Member Recruitment Plan Update (Amy Johnson)
Ms. Johnson reminded the board that four members' terms will conclude in March 2020: Carlos Ramirez, Tom Lannan, John Britain and Ryan Wilson. Three of the four members have identified a potential replacement. Resumes of potential new committee/board members are to be turned in to Ms. Johnson, Ms. Koehler, and Mr. Mulherin by the end of October. Mr. Mulherin and Ms. Koehler would like to meet the candidates, offer tours of the schools, and invite them to the November BOG meeting. As in previous board member recruiting cycles, there will be a full board social gathering to meet the candidates in early January. Ms. Johnson would like to slate the candidates at the January meeting.

Mr. Britain suggested revisiting the number of board members, proposing to reduce the current number of nine to seven if not less. There was discussion about ensuring that the BOG selects the right/best fitting candidates rather than just fill vacant seats. Ms. Johnson stated the board had to have at least three members.
- b. "Get on Board" Planning Update (Keith Huehls)
The Get on Board event is scheduled for Monday, October 28, from 4 – 6:30 p.m. Mr. Huehls, Mr. Ramirez, and Mr. Mulherin will be staffing the event. Get on Board is expecting 300-500 attendees. Ms. Johnson said they will have a description for the roles available for both the board and committees. Ms. Johnson provided content for a flyer specifically for candidates at the event.

V. Finance Committee Report

a. September financials (Tom Lannan)

In the Chief Financial Officer's absence, Mr. Lannan, the Finance Committee Chair, presented the September financials. Included in the discussion as follow-up to the September meeting, Mr. Britain investigated the availability of lead paint abatement grant funding through his contact who works in operations for the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township. This involves the aged exterior paint trim at Irvington Community Middle School. The paint's condition does not present a health safety concern; however, protocols for remediation do carry specific requirements.

b. Audit Update (Tom Lannan)

Mr. Lannan reported the annual financial audit concluded on Thursday, October 17. Initial indications are that the audit shows appropriate financial management occurred throughout the previous school year. The official audit report should be available in approximately two weeks.

VI. Other Business

VII. Closing Items

a. Adjourn Meeting (See vote matrix)

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m. The next Board of Governors Meeting will be held in the IPA Dining Hall on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 6 p.m.