

ICS Board of Directors Open Session
Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2019

Present: Carmen Flores, Diane Amour, Justin Thundercloud, Sommer Drake, Carrie McGhee Gleba

Also present: Jason Dropik, Mark Powless, Bonnie Scharber, Siobhan Marks, Renee Meyer, Melissa Deutsch, Debbie Martindale

Guest: Mark Denning, Rachel Jeske

The meeting was called to order at 6:27 p.m.

Mark Denning addressed the group. He extended his gratitude to the Board and School Administration for their assistance for all the things done for the family. He expressed how he appreciated the access provided to him and his family in their time of need.

Mr. Denning noted that as the school begins its celebration of the 50th anniversary, it should be noted that there are Board members who have served on this Board for many years and that their dedication needs to be recognized. He spoke of how the school has talked of the 7 Generations and noted that the midewiwin teaches that the 7th generation has come to a close, and that the 8th generation began two years ago. He suggested that the school speak with someone about that perspective. He noted that it might help shape the kinds of things to teach to students in the future.

He spoke of a time when the school was facing a difficult moment in history and it was at that time when one of the Board members came forward and asked how to bring forth spiritual meaning to the school. He explained how the Seven Sacred Gifts were identified and adopted by the Board. He stated that the Board worked with Bob Brown to also incorporate four values from the Oneida Long House. He said that while watching Chris Eyre during the filming, he noticed the value statements teachers were using. He noted that some weren't using them at all and some were not teaching them with the proper meaning. He stated that he felt that as a former Board member something was left undone and that was the education of the values. He distributed a document titled the Whippel Code. He said that if the school worked with the bus drivers, teachers, students and family then standardized values can be created at the school.

Ms. Flores thanked Mr. Denning for his words.

Mr. Denning departed the meeting at 6:46 pm.

Interim Chief Financial Officer – Renee Meyer reported:

- Materials are being gathered for the tax returns for both ICS and the SO.
- The auditors are finalizing a draft report for review with the goal to have the final report ready for distribution before the October 8, 2019 Finance Committee meeting.
- All signatory reassignments have been completed and all organizations have been notified of Mr. Oechler's departure.
- New tenants have moved into the rental unit.
- Temporary help for the department has been hired and doing well.

Ms. Meyer reviewed the financial documents with the board. Ms. Flores asked that any questions should be sent to Ms. Meyer.

Hunting Request – Ms. Meyer and Mr. Dropik brought forward a request to allow an employee to hunt on school grounds per the policy.

It was moved by Justin Thundercloud and seconded by Sommer Drake to approve the hunting application and permit as requested. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Discussion was held regarding the testing of the deer when harvested for chronic wasting disease. It was also requested that the hunter receive a teaching prior to his hunt.

The meeting convened to the Annual Open Session at 7:08 p.m.

The Open meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

It was moved by Sommer Drake and seconded by Justin Thundercloud to approve the August 21, 2019 Executive Session minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

It was moved by Sommer Drake and seconded by Carrie McGhee Gleba to approve the August 24, 2019 Executive Session minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

The motion to approve the August 24, 2019 Executive Session minutes was withdrawn by both the motion maker and second.

It was moved by Sommer Drake and seconded by Carrie McGhee Gleba to approve the August 24, 2019 Executive Session minutes as revised. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

It was moved by Justin Thundercloud and seconded by Sommer Drake to approve the August 29, 2019 Executive Session minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

It was moved by Sommer Drake and seconded by Carrie McGhee Gleba to approve the September 4, 2019 Executive Session minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Head of School – Jason Dropik reported that classes are back in session and thus far attendance has been very high. He noted that the staff appreciated and enjoyed the Welcome Back event.

Diane Amour commented that the staff and parents should be given instructions on the Sacred Gifts and that everyone needs to see them and understand what they are. Discussion was held regarding the sacred gifts and comments made by Mr. Denning. Mr. Dropik commented that a connection should be made between the original definitions and the definitions created by Dr. Powless. Dr. Deutsch noted that the Sacred Gifts are a topic for the September Professional Development day.

Mr. Dropik also noted that Makerspace has started and is being very well received. Teachers are excited and coming forward with ideas.

Our Ways Director – Dr. Powless reported:

- Rice camp was extended a second day which allowed more time to be spent with each class.
- Our Ways was available to participate in the FRC picnic.
- Upcoming events were identified and shared with staff.
- The Orientation Handbook was distributed and helpful comments were received.
- The 2019 gold \$1 coin depicts the first Native American astronaut.
- Monea Warrington is an excellent addition to the Menominee classroom and Ms. Kotinee is very happy with her assistance.
- Our Ways has received new furniture.

Ms. Amour questioned if there is a cultural component involved in the AISES visit to the school in October. Dr. Deutsch stated that the program is still in the development stages. Mr. Dropik stated that he does not think there will be a culture component to their visit, but more of an identification of available fields for our students.

It was questioned if Our Ways is assisting with the culture field trips. Dr. Powless stated that assistance is being offered when possible. Mr. Dropik requested that if anyone learns of specific dates for cultural happenings around the state that they please notify him.

Renee Meyer departed the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

A break was taken at 8:22 p.m.

The meeting reconvened to Open Session at 8:27 p.m.

Communication and Marketing Director: Siobhan Marks reported:

- Back to school issue of the newsletter had almost 50% readership rate.
- Next newsletter will include articles written by the staff.
- Work continues on the play, and noted that additional staff assistance is needed.
- Land & Water Acknowledgement statement has been revised.
- "Lighting the Path" is the suggested title for the History Film.
- The Indigenous People's Day/50 Year Celebration communication plan is available for review.

Support Organization Meeting – Diane Amour reported:

- Officers were reelected.
- Blain Reinke was retained for another term.
- Renee Meyer attended her first meeting and did a good job.
- Discussion was held regarding the Chief Financial Officer position.

Board Governance Committee – Carmen Flores reported:

- Minor revisions to the Committee Statement of Purpose and will be shared at the next Board meeting.
- Board position descriptions were reviewed and revised
- The committee reviewed the next meeting agenda.

Doctoral Program Request – Sommer Drake explained the purpose of the request. It is an informal research project request. She is requesting that a group of students from the UW Green Bay doctoral program be allowed to follow a project at the school. She identified who the students are that would be involved in the research project.

It was moved by Justin Thundercloud and seconded by Carrie McGhee Gleba to allow Sommer Drake and her University of Wisconsin Green Bay First Nations Educational Doctorate team to conduct an informal research project in collaboration with the school. The motion carried. (4-0-1 Drake abstained)

JD Thomas – DJ Klauser contacted Diane Amour regarding a gentleman who is interested in speaking to our students about his story and financial literacy. Ms. Martindale was requested to forward the information to Mr. Dropik.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Amour, Secretary

10-2-2019
Date Approved