

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

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

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

Guests: Mark Denning, Rachel Jeske

The meeting was called to order at 5:58 p.m.

Carmen Flores welcomed guests Mark Denning and Rachel Jeske. Both requested to address the Board.

Ms. Jeske noted that the Board Bylaws are not on the ICS website. Ms. Martindale will email them to her and also to Ms. Marks so that they may be included under the Board Section of the website.

Ms. Jeske also stated that she has heard very favorable comments about the play "All My Relations", but also heard concerns that if it were to be done annually both students and parents may lose interest in participating/attending. Ms. Amour thanked Ms. Jeske for the feedback and said it will be discussed further by the Community Relations Committee.

Mark Denning thanked the Board for providing him the opportunity to address them. Mr. Denning spoke of the process that was gone through when crafting the design of the school. He noted that during this time there was no thought given to addressing historical trauma, but that is what was done. Today there is trauma informed design and trauma informed architecture. It is known a building can have physiological and mental health effects on children. Today schools are being built to have a feeling of emotional and physical safety. Our school was ahead of its time in design. The design and furniture of the school allows the teacher to teach in a class of emotional support. The goal was the creation of a safe and healing environment...words used before we had the term "historical trauma". Yet our school depicts all the elements mentioned today...open spaces, windows, non-regimented classroom design, classrooms which allow teachers to teach in a class of emotional support. Mr. Denning requested that in the future, when tours or discussions are being had about the school, it be acknowledged that the design of the school was far ahead of its time and assists in helping with historical and emotional trauma.

Ms. Flores thanked Mr. Denning for sharing this information with the group, and stated how amazing it was to learn how ahead of their time everyone was who had input into the design elements of the building, and that the building is a result of a trauma informed community.

Mr. Denning departed the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

It was moved by Justin Thundercloud and seconded by Carrie McGhee Gleba to approve the December 7, 2019 Executive Session minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Head of School Report – Mr. Dropik reported on the events and successful moments that took place during the month of November. After being asked, Mr. Dropik explained what was entailed in cultural mentoring at the school. It was requested that a system be devised to track families who participate in cultural activities. Mr.

Dropik also explained the Zello program to the group. It was noted that Mr. Valtierre be asked to explain his CESA 1 training at the next Scholarship committee meeting.

It was stated that there were a number of items discussed at the Support Organization regarding technology and that the information is provided in the management letter from the audit firm. This will be a discussion at the next meeting.

Interim Chief Financial Officer Report – Renee Meyer reviewed the Audit Managers letter and our responses. She also identified and reviewed the documents provided from the Support Organization. Ms. Flores noted that the documents were received and filed.

Our Ways Director – Dr. Powless reported that highlights from his report include:

- Working with some students on their STEM Fair project;
- Possibly bringing in a guest for Art Class for pottery making;
- Having Wade Fernandez return in spring;
- Native Games and teachings with Paul Ninham;
- Ms. Shawanokasic is completing Grade 1 & 2 Menominee Language lesson plans;
- Held a Drum Parents meeting;
- The Red Cliff Workshop to help them build a language curriculum is being rescheduled.

Discussion was held regarding the teaching of Act 31 to our 4th and 8th grade students. It was requested that a sample of how each grade follows a thread of the OWTLF be sent to the Board with an explanation. Dr. Powless also cited examples of how we try to expand our students' knowledge of their tribes.

Marketing/Communications Department – Ms. Marks shared the flyers created for the Round Dance and Bear Moon Pow wow; shared a mock-up of the History Wall to be installed January 2 & 3, 2020; requested assistance in wrapping the gifts to be distributed at the 50 Year Celebration at the Bear Moon Pow Wow; and requested a selection for the design of the t-shirt for the pow wow (#3). She provided an update on the "Love" concert. It was noted that some comments were made about the lack of holiday music.

Ms. Marks further reported that she has been in contact with Forest County Potawatomi regarding the Democratic National Convention. It was clarified that the use of the building will be for tribal entities and native organizations.

It was agreed that the following employees will be asked by Mr. Dropik to serve on the Census Bureau Committee: Jason Dropik, Siobhan Marks, Cindy Janecek and a member of the parent group.

Building & Grounds Committee – Ms. Flores asked that any questions be directed to her.

FRC/PAT Affiliation – Mr. Dropik noted that as an affiliate of the PAT organization, we are required to have a quality endorsement program, which is the equivalent to receiving accreditation. Mr. Dropik requested the group review the draft handbook provided. Comments need to be received by January 10, 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Amour, Secretary

1-8-2020
Date Approved

