

ICS Board of Directors Open Session
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2020

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

Present via Zoom: Sommer Drake

Also present: Jason Dropik, Dr. Melissa Deutsch, Dr. Mark Powless, Siobhan Marks, LaVetta Buckley-Hunter, Brian Leibl, Debbie Martindale

Carmen Flores called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

Head of School Report – Jason Dropik provided an update regarding problems that the 2020 graduating class are experiencing. He confirmed that the school staff are reaching out to support and help them in any way they can.

Chief Financial Officer – Brian Leibl reported that the auditors are working on the audit and suggested they come and present to the Board. He will be working the following items for the remainder of the month:

- Audit
- Strategic Plan
- Quarterly Budget Reviews
- Finance Policies
- Facilities projects

Mr. Leibl reviewed the financial information with the group. The Board approved of the new report format presented.

Our Ways Director – Dr. Mark Powless reported that David O'Connor has agreed to review the Our Ways Teaching and Learning Framework to identify gaps. He reported that he has been notified of two potential Ho-Chunk teachers. He stated he had a discussion with one and will be speaking to the other soon and will keep the Board informed. He also provided an update on the progress of the two new apprentices. He spoke of items still needed for the teaching lodge (tarp and benches) and that he will be reaching out to MIEC for assistance. He was reminded that MIEC transferred money for the purchase of a tarp last year and that it should still be in the School budget.

Communications & Marketing Director – Siobhan Marks reported that the past month has been a very robust time and have accomplished a great deal of work. Current projects being worked on include:

- Promotion of the Manoomin camp
- Planning for Indigenous People's Day
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Trunk or Treat

The group discussed the School Meal Program and costs especially as it relates to remote learners. Mr. Leibl said we will be reimbursed for our costs. He said we may not receive as much as we have in the past, but our costs are also not as high. It was noted that we do not have many people participating in the program at this time. Mr. Dropik said he would like to promote it more with the hopes that it will expand. The program will be closely monitored.

Scholarship Committee – Mr. Dropik updated the board regarding a tuition reimbursement matter. The Board asked if the Committee was moving forward with the higher education scholarship program. Mr. Thundercloud stated that the program is currently on hold.

Culture Committee – There were no questions at this time.

Academic Committee –Dr. Deutsch gave an update on the reading assessment program and explained the difficulties encountered. She explained there have been problems with doing the assessments with remote students and steps are being taken to resolve the issues. Discussion was held regarding the problems experienced with staff who need to be out because of Covid related situations. She shared her concern regarding the increased workload and overextension being felt by the staff. It was questioned if the creation of a support pool would help. Dr. Deutsch responded that things are very specialized so there really is no secondary support. Ms. Flores questioned if Dr. Deutsch needs support to assist her. Dr. Deutsch said she would appreciate having an assistant, but feels she has asked the Board for so much already, and feels it more important to get the support her staff needs.

Community Relations – Siobhan Marks and Ms. Amour provided a brief update of the discussion held at the committee meeting.

NIEA Registration – Ms. Martindale asked that anyone who plans to attend the NIEA virtual conference contact her by noon on Friday, September 18. Ms. Marks stated that because of our sponsorship of the conference, the school will receive three free registrations. Ms. Marks and Ms. Martindale will work out the details once all the attendees have been identified.

Ms. Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Amour, Secretary

10/7/2020
Date Approved