

ICS Board of Directors Open Session
Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2021

Present: Carmen Flores, Sommer Drake, Diane Amour, Justin Thundercloud, Carrie McGhee Gleba
Staff Reporting: Jason Dropik, Dr. Mark Powless, Siobhan Marks
Also in Attendance: Debbie Martindale

Justin Thundercloud smudged the group.

Carmen Flores called the meeting to order at 5:27 p.m.

Diane Amour led the group in prayer and a moment of silent reflection.

Dr. Mark Powless recited the Mission Statement.

There were no public comments.

Motion by Carrie McGhee Gleba and seconded by Sommer Drake to approve the September 15, 2021 Executive Session Minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Motion by Sommer Drake and seconded by Carrie McGhee Gleba to approve the September 24, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Motion by Carrie McGhee Gleba and seconded by Sommer Drake to approve the September 29, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Head of School Report – Jason Dropik reported:

- ICS is not experiencing the same effects from COVID as many other schools. We have had a minimum number of cases.
- Mr. Dropik gave a new student update.
- As with other schools, ICS is facing the challenge of finding substitute teachers. Due to the shortage of sub teachers, we have had to fill the open spots internally. He is hoping to hire a building sub in the near future.
- The busing problems experienced at the beginning of the school year have improved.
- Ms. Weber will take over daily operations while he is at NIEA, Dr. Deutsch has a team to oversee her department.

A recent Parent Meeting, where parents were asked to answer three questions prepared by FRC was discussed. The focus and wording of the questions were questioned. Mr. Dropik was reminded that all surveys going to the public need to be reviewed and approved by the Board.

Our Ways Director Report – Dr. Powless reported:

- Two Ho-Chunk teachers and the Oneida Apprentice will begin on Monday, October 11. He provided background information on all. The Ho-Chunk teachers will begin teaching in the 2nd quarter.
- We have been unable to find a Menominee teacher. The status of Menominee is uncertain, the apprentice may continue in that role until the 2nd quarter. She may become a floating apprentice for all languages. Therefore, we would then not have a Menominee class. Dr. Powless and Mr.

Dropik are working on what to do if there are no Menominee instructors. Ms. Amour asked Dr. Powless to include language on the Culture Committee agenda.

- A meeting has been scheduled with Dylan Jennings to discuss the upcoming deer camp.
- While at NIEA the two Language and Culture Specialists will assist teachers and new staff as needed.

Communications & Marketing Director Report – Siobhan Marks reported:

- The “Every Child Matters” t-shirts sold out.
- Some of our social media numbers are increasing.
- Rough cut #9 of the film will be distributed soon for review. This version was also submitted to Sundance.
- Viewing of the newsletter is increasing. It is sent out a second time to those email addresses that have not opened it.
- Staff will be receiving t-shirts for Indigenous People’s Day, students will be receiving stickers.
- While at NIEA Joyce Williams will be available in the department to assist and, if need be, contact Ms. Marks.

Academic Committee – Sommer Drake reported the Indigenous Learning Framework has been created and will share it with the Culture Committee for review, questions, and comments. She also reported that work continues on the Accelerated Learning Program and that some tribal schools have been contacted regarding their programs. It was suggested that a conversation also be held with Kamehameha. The committee also discussed policy responsibility.

Scholarship Committee – Justin Thundercloud reported the committee reviewed the scholarship application process and portal and requested revisions to be made for each.

Personnel Committee – To be discussed in Closed Session.

Ad Hoc Construction Committee – Ms. Flores reported a meeting was held with the people and vendors who will be involved in the Retro-fit Lighting Project. The purpose was for everyone to understand their roles and responsibilities. The committee discussed the possible availability of outside funding to help with the cost of the project. The Board would need to discuss whether or not to pursue outside funding.

Ad Hoc Master Planning Committee – Ms. Amour reported that the committee received a proposal from Ruckert-Mielke which would identify the various ecosystems/communities on the grounds. During the discussion, various options for additional studies were discussed. The committee asked Ruckert-Mielke to submit a new proposal that covers observations of our campus during different seasons. Ms. Amour stated that it was critical to know how the grounds will be used in the curriculum. She asked that Mr. Dropik, Dr. Powless, and Dr. Deutsch meet to discuss this and provide the information to the committee quickly.

Board Governance Committee – To be discussed in Closed Session.

WIEA Conference – Sommer Drake reported that the Wisconsin Indian Education Association (WIEA) has inquired to hold the annual conference at the school. The suggested dates are during Spring Break (March 21-25) or in May. The conference would be held Thursday-Saturday and has an estimated attendance of 200 people. The theme is “Seeds of Sovereignty”. Ms. Marks stated that she has \$5,000 in her budget to sponsor the conference.

Motion by Diane Amour and seconded by Justin Thundercloud that the Indian Community School agree to host the 2022 WIEA Conference. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

A break was taken at 7:05 p.m.

The Open Session portion of the meeting reconvened at 7:13 p.m.

Policies – Ms. Drake reported that during the Academic Committee meeting questions were asked regarding policies. Who is responsible for those policies that share similarities between two departments within the organization? As an example, there is a Dress and Grooming policy for both students and staff. Which group is responsible for the review and revision of the policy? It was also asked, Who is responsible for communicating a revised policy with the staff? It was recommended that an Ad Hoc Policy Committee be created to develop a process for reviewing, revising, coordinating, and communicating information on policies. The committee will also assign persons responsible for follow-up on individual policies.

Motion by Diane Amour and seconded by Sommer Drake to approve the creation of an Ad Hoc Policy Committee. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Ms. Flores appointed Justin Thundercloud, Carrie McGhee Gleba, and Debbie Martindale to the ad hoc committee.

Carmen Flores adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Diane Amour, Board Secretary

10/20/21
Date Approved