

ICS Board of Directors Open Session
Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2021

Present: Sommer Drake, Diane Amour, Carrie McGhee Gleba, Justin Thundercloud
Present via Zoom: Carmen Flores
Reporting: Jason Dropik, Dr. Mark Powless, Dr. Melissa Deutsch, Siobhan Marks, Brian Leibl
Also present: LaVetta Buckley-Hunter, Debbie Martindale

Sommer Drake called the meeting to order at 5:49 p.m.

Siobhan Marks led the group in prayer.

Dr. Mark Powless recited the Mission Statement.

Motion by Carrie McGhee Gleba and seconded by Diane Amour to approve the 11/17/2021 Executive Session minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Motion by Carrie McGhee Gleba and seconded by Diane Amour to approve the 11/23/2021 Special Executive Session minutes. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Head of School Report – Jason Dropik reported that he will attend the December 15 Board Executive Session and will share progress, accomplishments, services provided, and next steps regarding the School Psychologist, Counselor, and Phy Ed/Health teacher thus far. He also noted that a summary of the types of needs being addressed (including a breakdown of students and grades served) will be included in his presentation. He stated that Jeff Bowman joined the 8th grade class virtually to discuss financial matters such as credit ratings and saving for a house. No additional information outside of the report.

Our Ways Director Report –Dr. Mark Powless reported the Ho-Chunk Language and Culture classes have started and that the new teacher seems excited and happy. The class sizes are small (32 students total) but there is at least one student per grade. Two grades have five students.

He has been meeting with members of the Ho-Chunk Language and Culture Committee (Adrienne Thunder, Jessi Falcon and Lisa Cabasos) over the past couple of years, and have included Dr. Deutsch as all are interested in working on Language and Culture curriculum for K-8 students. There has been some discussion regarding them assisting us with the lesson development, implementation, and assessments, but haven't gotten to the point of beginning the program.

He also reported that he has received donations of some hides and is trying to find locations to store them until they are ready for use. It was suggested that Our Ways purchase a freezer.

Director of Instruction Report – Dr. Melissa Deutsch reported that the information on the November Professional Development days is in the report. She guided everyone's attention to

the communication that was sent to staff about Standards-Based Grading and explained what the communication and links are about. Melissa invited questions to be sent to her and she will answer. The added information attached to her report is from Kaylee Pyne and Kirsten Bigley. She stated she asked Ms. Stenzel to join the group to offer guidance on how to bring the assessments together.

Justin Thundercloud joined the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Communications and Marketing Director Report – Siobhan Marks reported she has been using a new software program for social media which cuts down on the time/processes needed to post to the different social media platforms. And she said the programs offer great information. She believes that ICS families are getting their information mostly through social media. She also provided an update on her work with Marquette University regarding ICS's history. She shared information about her visit with Dorothy LePage and the gifts the school received.

Finance and Facilities Departments Report – Brian Leibl reported the accounting team has turned from working on the audit and are gearing up for year-end tax reporting. Financial reports have been distributed to department heads. Mr. Leibl reported that ICS is no longer eligible for the funding received to provide after-school activity snacks. He noted that the amount received was approximately \$3,000. ICS will continue the program and will fund it ourselves. Mr. Leibl requested to be placed on the January 5th meeting agenda to demonstrate the online whistleblower program.

Academic Committee – Sommer Drake reported that they had a presentation for a potential gifted and talented program. The committee agreed to move forward in implementing a pathway for accelerated math, but feel the others should be included as a curriculum extension.

Community Relations Committee – Justin Thundercloud reported that the committee discussed showing the film during the WIEA conference. Siobhan reported she got in touch with the people at the theater who have reserved three dates. Justin reviewed the meeting minutes with the group.

Language and Culture Committee – Diane Amour reported the Language & Culture Committee revised the committee's Statement of Purpose and is recommending the Board adopt the revised document. If you have questions regarding the meeting minutes, please contact Ms. Amour.

Moved by Justin Thundercloud and seconded by Carrie McGhee Gleba to approve the revised Language & Culture Committee Statement of Purpose as recommended by the Language and Culture Committee. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Ad Hoc Policy Committee – Justin Thundercloud reviewed the minutes of the meeting with the group. A discussion was held regarding NEOLA redoing our policy manual. Mr. Dropik stated he spoke with Mr. Steve LaVallee from NEOLA who would be willing to do the revision. This item will be included on the agenda for the December 15th meeting. He also recommended that we join the Association of Independent Schools.

Committee Roster Change – Sommer Drake requested that Dr. Melissa Deutsch be removed from the Community Relations Committee with the understanding that she will continue to receive the agendas and may attend the meetings if she is invited or there is an agenda item she would like to address.

Motion by Justin Thundercloud and seconded by Diane Amour to approve the request to remove Dr. Melissa Deutsch as a member of the Community Relations Committee. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Ratification of November 23 Email Vote –

Motion by Diane Amour and seconded by Justin Thundercloud to ratify the vote taken on November 23, 2021 via email allowing the Ignace Center to hold a New Year's Eve Sobriety Pow Wow at the school. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Carmen Flores joined the meeting at 7:23 p.m and provided her affirmative vote for earlier motions brought before the Board.

Recommendation for Auditors – Brian Leibl shared the information received by Baker Tilly to continue to conduct the audit. There is a 6% increase in the audit fees. We have an option of signing up for 1-3 years. Audit fees would increase by 2% under the 3-year program. It is a handshake agreement. This is the first year that we will have to have a 401(k) audit. The recommendation from the Finance Committee is to continue to work with Baker Tilly. The SO will be given the information on our choice of auditors to take into consideration when making their decision.

Motion by Justin Thundercloud and seconded by Carrie McGhee Gleba to approve Baker Tilly as the auditors for three years beginning with the 2021 – 2022 ICS fiscal year. The motion carried. (5-0-0)

Property Visit – The Board and Leadership Team will visit the 116th Street property on January 6, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Sommer Drake adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Amour, Secretary

12/15/2021
Date Approved

Tasks:

Jason Dropik and Debbie Martindale to determine a date for NEOLA presentation at Board Meeting (Scheduled for Jan. 5, 2022)

Debbie Martindale - Include Mr. Leibl on the January 5th agenda - Demonstrate the online Whistleblower program.

Brian Leibl - January 5 Whistleblower program review with Board and Leadership Team