

Indianapolis Classical Schools Board Meeting  
via Zoom  
December 8, 2020

Board members present were Patrick Chittenden, John Watson, Keith Steiner, Dave Sternberg, Adrian Miller, Mindy Cunningham, Dan Roy, Mark Nottingham, Mac McWhirter, David Steele, Manuel Rodriguez. Staff present were Janet McNeal, Juli Woodrum, Jen Sommers, and Karen Lalioff.

Mr. Watson called the meeting to order and a quorum of the Board was present.

The minutes of the prior meeting of the Board were reviewed and approved.

The Board was provided an update on Herron Preparatory Academy by Ms. McNeal and Mr. Watson. The plan is for modulars to be used, but IHPC still would need to approve their use. It is expected that most of the cost of the modulars would be covered through funding from a third party, but that ICS would have costs of approximately \$15,000. The Board approved moving forward with contracting for modulars to be used for HPA.

Mr. Watson led a discussion regarding new board member recruitment and the creation of a Board of Advisors beginning in 2022. The precise role of the Board of Advisors is still being developed, but the plan is for it to provide a means for veteran members of the Board to continue to contribute to ICS without having to serve on the Board. In addition, the Board retreat normally scheduled for February will be moved to the late spring due to the likely inability to meet in person by February.

Mr. Miller and Ms. Woodrum gave a report of the Fiduciary Committee. Auditors have essentially completed with few issues identified. It was determined that the ICS 403(b) plan is exempt from audit as it qualifies as a public school plan. The negative variance in the budget is due to a delay in some state funding, but there also was better funding for Summer Academy than anticipated. It also is possible that we could receive more fully funded Summer Academy to make up for learning loss this year. The Board voted to empower the Fiduciary Committee to approve the final audit report when completed.

Mr. Sternberg and Ms. Sommers provided the Development Committee report. The Development Office is making good progress in learning how it can use data and information we have. In addition, the Development Office has received the results of an audit and is already beginning to implement improvements based on the findings. A reframing of the Classical Cocktails event is under consideration, and another event potentially for late February is in the

planning stages. The short-term goal for fundraising has been adjusted from \$500,000 to something in the \$300,000 range.

Mr. Roy gave the Education Committee report, including a discussion of HHS and RHS performance during the pandemic and strategies for improving performance. In some instances, one-to-one mentoring and attention will be necessary for intensive remedial work. There is no inexpensive way to do this. Based on the public health situation and orders from the Marion County Health Department, it is anticipated that HHS and RHS will have to remain virtual for some time, though learning pods are in development for students who very much need in-person learning. A draft racial equity statement was discussed, and the Board voted to empower the Executive Committee to review and finalize the statement.

Ms. McNeal provided the president's report, including updates on how meals will be served during break and remote learning. In addition, enrollment has decreased by 19 students since the first count day. Finally, student recruitment is slow, which is consistent with the trend across the city.

The meeting was adjourned.