

Indianapolis Classical Schools Board Meeting  
via Zoom  
August 18, 2020

Board members present were Patrick Chittenden, Peggy Sabens, John Watson, Keith Steiner, Dave Sternberg, Adrian Miller, Mindy Cunningham, Dan Roy, Mark Nottingham, Mac McWhirter, and Meggie Dials. Staff present were Janet McNeal, Juli Woodrum, Deb Cooney, Jonathan Harris, Tenika Holden-Flynn, Jennifer Sommers, and Karen Laliuff. Guest: Brandon Brown

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

Brandon Brown, CEO of The Mind Trust, provided information to the board about the current state of schools in Marion County, including student performance data, school locations, and capacity of schools. Mr. Brown also discussed the fundraising landscape and financing opportunities for facilities. There is a sense that the far east side and the Meadows areas have ample school options, which the west and south sides are underserved.

After Mr. Brown's presentation, the minutes of the prior meeting of the Board were reviewed and approved.

Ms. McNeal introduced Dr. Tenika Holden-Flynn, who is serving as the interim head of school for Herron, and will serve as head of school for the K-8. Dr. Holden-Flynn provided a brief introduction and overview of her activities.

Mr. Watson explained that the Mayor's Office is requiring the Board to set written goals. Staff will work with the Education Committee to develop the goals.

Mr. Watson explained that a Nominating Committee is being formed that will more formally work on identifying new members of the board and officers.

Board assurances forms were discussed and the need to review and sign.

Mr. Miller provided the treasurer's report regarding financials. Because of the February 2019 casualty event, ICS was \$76,000 below break-even. But for this extraordinary expense, ICS has operated well. The 2020-21 budget will require very close monitoring. There is uncertainty about the rate at which funding will be provided if schools are required to continue remotely.

Ms. McNeal provided an enrollment report. Riverside is at approximately 435 students and Herron is at approximately 970 students. However, because of the pandemic, there is less

certainty about enrollment than there has been in the past. In addition, we have a need for a special education specialist who was not budgeted for due to increased need.

Mr. Sternberg noted that we have hired Jennifer Sommers as our new VP of development.

Dr. Cooney provided a report on maintenance issues. There are issues at Herron with the wall, roof, and HVAC system.

Ms. McNeal provided the president's report. School leadership is doing great work creating a virtual learning plan and professional development training. We had a very robust Summer Academy with over 600 attendees. We are working to develop a plan for students with greater needs.

The meeting was adjourned and executive session was held regarding a job performance evaluation and potential purchase of real property.