

Irmo High School International School for the Arts

School Improvement Council Minutes of the February 28, 2019

The following members were in attendance: Robin L. Hardy, Jay Clark, Toni Karl, Barb Waldman, Juanita Bowens, Linda Byars, Kim Weber, Christie Smith, Alisha Polkowsky, Dan Koon, D.C. Terry, Sr. and Ruth Iglesias

Excused Absences: Beth White and Allison Smith

- **Welcome by D.C. Terry:** Meeting began at 6 p.m.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the January 17, 2019 meeting were circulated by email, but there was no motion to approve at this meeting.
- **Chair's Report:**
 1. Update on 'Race to the Table' meeting (Dan Koon): An at length discussion was held about this program. A final decision needed to be made as to whether or not to proceed with this program. Per Mr. Koon, the professionals from this organization have recommended that the SIC group go through this program together first. Then after its completion, determine future steps. Constructive arguments for and against this program were discussed. A motion was made by Dan Koon that the IHS SIC proceed with arranging a 'Race to the Table' session for the SIC members to allow us the experience of the program and then decide whether or not to proceed on a community level. The motion was seconded by Juanita Bowens, and passed unanimously.

Some logistics regarding this program: Dan Koon will set up this program for a Saturday with the help of Juanita Bowen and Ruth Iglesias. The cost for the program is \$200 to \$250. Dan Koon offered to pay for this program and others voiced a willingness to donate finances or food as well.

2. SPAC meeting report (Barb Waldman):

The minutes from this report are posted on the Facebook IHS SIC group page. Of particular interest was the School Report Cards update:

School Report Cards update by Vann Holden – attended recent Education Oversight Committee (EOC) meeting; no revisions to accountability plan for upcoming year, therefore the report cards will stay the same for at least another year; appears that EOC will continue to exist; State Superintendent of Education is an *ex officio* member of the EOC.

- **Principals Report:** Dr. Robin Hardy: Dr. Hardy and Mr. Clark spoke about the Facility Study that was shared at the special-called Board Meeting on February 25th. Irmo High School was “flagged as poor” due to its need for significant renovations and improvements. Dr. Hardy presents a challenge to the SIC members to show our support of Irmo High School to get our facility needs addressed. She now knows even more needs than those she was aware of in August when interviewed by MB Kahn. This is our call to action to get our families engaged in this effort and to get School Board support. Mr. Clark spoke about the daily issues they encounter with the facility. Several suggestions were made and the group decided to get more information from Dr. Hardy as to the best way we could help.

- **SIC Business:**
 1. SIC member engagement: D.C. presented a challenge to help create the atmosphere that helps to draw students in. Together, he wants to come up with a strategy to help promote a vision that connects the concept of what Irmo High School has to offer along with the need for an improved facility based upon the recent study. SIC members are challenged to express your support of Irmo High School to those who are decision makers for our district.

 2. Cluster Meeting, March 14, 6:00 – 7:00 at Irmo High School Media Center. This is opened to all Irmo cluster SIC and PTSO and stakeholders. Dr. Melton and others will be speaking.

 3. Parent Involvement: D.C. spoke about needing parents to become more vested at the interest of their children.

 4. Student involvement: Getting students passionate about opportunities that are here at IHS. A challenge to help create the atmosphere to draw students in.

 5. Next SIC Meeting: The next Irmo High School SIC meeting will be held on March 14, 2019, immediately after the Irmo Cluster meeting.

- **Adjournment:** Toni made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Kim 2nd the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth A. Iglesias