

HOOSIER ACADEMY BOARD MINUTES

May 27, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Board Treasurer John Luta at 5:42 PM, Tuesday, May 27, 2014. Quorum present: John Luta, Dynelle Pelsy-Bowyer, and Lesley Neff. Absent: John Marske and Stacie Porter Bilger.

Staff Present: Stephanie Hargens, Acting Head of School; Brandon Wells, Operations Manager; Dominique Lowery, High School Academic Director; Kathy Coe, Compliance; Keith Isom, Regional IT; Rachel Borrelli, Community Coordinator; Teachers Brad White, Brian Nash, Amber Mason, Nivan Saada and Lyndsay Sheridan; Dave Owens, Senior High School Counselor; and Norma Jean Graves, Administration Administrative Assistant/Board Secretary. There were no virtual attendees.

Approval of April Minutes:

Dynelle Pelsy-Bowyer moved that the April Board Minutes be approved as written. Lesley Neff seconded. The motion passed.

Adoption of May Agenda:

Neff moved that the May Board Agenda be adopted. Pelsy-Bowyer seconded. The motion passed.

Oral Communication:

- Lyndsey Sheridan, teacher, shared her year-end reflections both positives and areas of improvement.
- Brian Nash, teacher, shared concerns regarding onboarding, middle school to high school transition, and staff morale.
- Dr. Nivan Saada shared a comparison of the high school and K-8 models, as well hopes for next year.

John Luta thanked those who spoke affirming that their issues were heard and being addressed. It is the board's desire that stakeholders continue to communicate with the board. Luta shared the board's excitement for the new Head of School to be announced June 2 and asked Stephanie Hargens to address plans for new onboarding procedures. Hargens shared that new teachers would be onboarded July 14, two weeks prior to the current teacher start, student/learning coach orientation is now required prior to approval, TAC reviewed the required contract by student/learning coach, and two week cohorts starting on Mondays will be instituted.

- Brad White, teacher, addressed the need for early intervention in the transition from middle school to high school. Increased pressures on D and F students at the expense of high ability students.

Ivy Tech Course Offering:

Dave Owens, Senior HS Counselor presented a proposed Ivy Tech dual credit opportunity for high school students including projected outcomes, possible courses and cost.

Pelsy-Bowyer moved to approve a dual credit partnership with Ivy Tech with the need for the board/staff to address ways to reduce or eliminate costs for the program. Neff seconded. The motion passed.

ISTEP Update:

Stephanie Hargens present CTB numbers showing we achieved 97.3% in Round 1 and 97.1 in Round 2 for a total of 97.23% and achieving our goal. She offered a huge round of the thanks to the teachers and staff who made this possible.

Academic Metrics:

Hargens reported metrics as of April 28. We had 100% participation in five grade levels in Study Island. It is hoped ISTEP results reflect the exposure to this program. ELA again reflects 96% participation with help needed in 7th and 8th grades. Many of these students who had no participation are in the truancy process. It is anticipated that we will have eleven Blue Ribbon teachers whose names will be announced at the next board meeting. Passing rates of engaged students and Scantron results were shared. Luta commended all involved in achieving our ISTEP and other goals.

Washington DC Trip and Fundraiser:

Brad White, HS teacher, presented the information regarding a potential Washington DC trip. Robert Scott, Marty Dezelan and Liberty Mutual are reviewing liability policies and procedures for the trip that is planned for September 25-18 through School Trips of America. School Trips of America will handle payments, security, liability and tour guides. Washington DC was chosen as a first trip which could serve as stepping stone to trips of further distance to help our students see and experience the world. A fund raiser is planned for June with Mike's Carwash through a website. Students would individually earn money toward their trip. The cost is \$1245 w/4 in a room. Minimum number of students is 10. There will be one chaperone for every 10 students. We can bump date forward if we do not have 10 participants prior to the September date. Travel will be by plane. Parents are also welcome to go on this trip. Background checks/training would be done for these adults. Students would need at least a C average and in good standing. The board will approve forms after they are reviewed by legal counsel.

Enrollment and Registration:

Brandon Wells reported final enrollment numbers as of May 20: HY 395, VS 3463. Withdrawal reasons were reported at the request of the board including expulsions due to truancy. Registration metrics as of May 15 were given. Going forward the big focus will be gaining re-registration responses from all families.

Personnel:

Student/teacher ratios were presented with student population of 4119. We had two staff resignations in April. New hires for 2014-15 school will be processed for onboarding for their July 14 start. Open positions have been posted on Insperity for the new school year.

Compliance:

Kathy Coe reported that no reports were due in May. An April Special Education conflict was revised and resubmitted keeping our compliance current.

Community Report:

Rachael Borrelli reported on April events: Question and Answers, Book Club, Mom's Coffee, and How to Train Your Dragon theatre events. Two End of the Year Celebration are scheduled at Fort Benjamin Harrison and other venues across the state during the last week of school. The board is always invited to attend these events. A June 2 event is scheduled at Sky Zone. Over 250 have indicated they will

attend. Parent Orientations will be held three times a week in June. Jennifer and Rachael will also be in all Indiana major cities over the summer to meet with families.

Financials:

Lesley Schott reported on financials. Marske, Luta and Hargens reviewed the financials by phone this morning. Two issues are holding up the audit: the second count date being information only per the state and the accumulated deficit which has been approved by Ball State and the State of Indiana.

Bonding needs to be obtained by all bank account signatories. The Fiscal Policy has been red-lined and submitted to Robert Scott for review and board approval in June. Physical assets will be tagged and inventoried by June 17. All employee files must be current and compliant.

A shortage in operational funds is due to enrollment. We are at 75% of budget forecast. Extra costs next month will include testing and ISP reimbursement. Grant spending will also be finalized. A list of recurring vendors has been included in the board packet.

Neff moved to accept the Financial Statement for audit and to approve the accounts payable voucher. Pelsy-Bowyer seconded. The motion passed.

Board Ad Hoc Committee:

The Ad Hoc Committee is reviewing staffing needs, adapting the budget, as well as reviewing Ivy Tech course offerings.

Board HR Committee:

The HR Committee met to review and approve Hoosier Academy employee agreements.

Dress Code:

Hargens proposed to re-implement a former dress code which would include khaki-style pants/jean and a polo.

Lesley Neff moved to approve the proposed dress code revised to state "a casual dockers-style" pants/jeans and not defining colors. Pelsy-Bowyer seconded. The motion passed.

There being no further business, Luta adjourned the meeting at 7:12 PM.

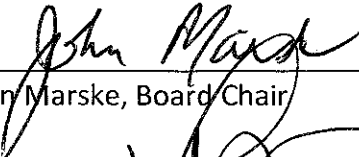
Next Board Meeting: June 24, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,



Norma Jean Graves
Board Secretary

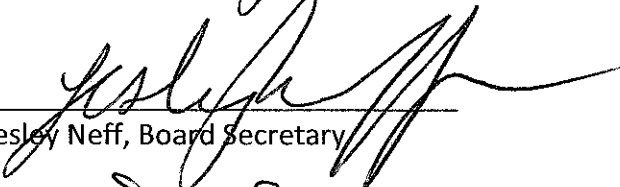
Signatures for approval of May 27, 2014 Minutes:



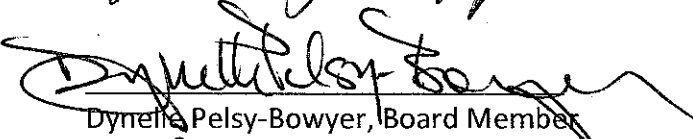
John Marske, Board Chair



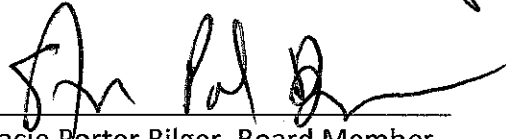
John Luta, Board Treasurer



Lesley Neff, Board Secretary



Dynella Pelsy-Bowyer, Board Member



Stacie Porter Bilger, Board Member