

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
IDAHO VIRTUAL ACADEMY'S
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Thursday
September 16, 2021**

7:00pm (MDT)

PRELIMINARY

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm (MDT).

B. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Quorum was established at 7:01 p.m.

C. ROLL CALL

<i>Seat</i>	<i>Occupant</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Position 1	Director Thompson	(7/24)	X	
Position 2	Director Shaver	(7/24)		X
Position 3	Chairman Handeen	(7/22)	X	
Position 4	Director McPherson	(7/23)	X	
Position 5	Director Krein	(7/23)	X	

Positions and Terms pursuant to Policy 103.0

It was confirmed that Director McPherson, new to her position, has executed her oath of office, and such is held by the Board's Clerk.

Others present at the meeting:

Kelly Edginton
Amber Hatrock
Mike Groshong
Jake Houtrouw
Tim Hoyt
Ying Mary Ni
John Kramer
Nich Sutherland
Sheila Shiebler
Amy White

II. COMMUNICATIONS

A. PROCEDURAL NOTE:

1. MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA – ACTION ITEM

Motion was made by Director Thompson to approve the Agenda, as posted.

Motion seconded by Chairman Handeen.

Motion approved, unanimously.

B. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC INPUT:

Non-agenda items: no individual presentation shall be for more than three (3) minutes, and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Ordinarily, Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give direction to staff following a presentation.

No member of the public sought to make comment.

C. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION: Director's Report

Presentation of informational items at the discretion and selection of the Directors.

1. IDVA 11 + 1 Board Presentation

This report was provided to the Directors in written format due to the change of personnel. It was noted that there is a proposed K12/Stride payment in the amount of \$373,000. Administration stood for questions on this report and the proposed payment.

2. Reply to Director Shaver regarding late payments

This matter was tabled due to Ms. Shaver's excused absence from the meeting tonight.

D. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION: Board/Staff Discussions

Board and staff discuss items of mutual interest.

1. Head of School Report – Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton covered the upcoming calendar activities for the school:

- September 17 – Virtual Events. Due to COVID-19 escalating situation, in-person events were cancelled.
- October 15 – School Events date.

Ms. Edginton addressed the SDE’s recent reinterpretation of Charter Administrator certificate eligibility. Three (3) of the school’s academic administrators had met the requirements under the previous interpretation and the SDE had granted certification. Subsequently, the SDE advised the school that only Board-employed administrators were eligible for the certificates. The three individuals in question meet all qualifications, except employing entity. Accordingly, the certificates were rescinded effective August 30th. SDE advised that the school had a period of time with which they could work with the school on these certificates. Ms. Edginton asked for additional time to work through the issue. This is very new information for Ms. Edginton and she has commenced discussion with Stride, including governmental affairs, to weigh the options.

Ms. Edginton provided the Directors with an update on the E-sports program. One hundred (100) IDVA students signed up this fall for the program. Last year, there were approximately 30 students on the team between IDVA and ITCA. This year, the age group includes students who are thirteen (13) and older, which opened the program to 8th grade students. A parent meeting was held last week with seventy-eight (78) people in attendance via Zoom, and more on the Zoom phone line. Everyone, including Coach Kayla Stookey, are looking forward to a great season. Due to the number of participants this year, the school asked for parent volunteers to assist with the program. Three parents are volunteering and the school is currently working with these parents on their background checks and education as to their role as a volunteer, confidentiality, interactions and mandatory reporting.

Ms. Edginton shared the school’s fall E-sports program schedule, which begins with games and practice in September, culminating in a mini-winter tournament in December. E-sports will continue with a spring schedule as well.

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (These items require a vote by the Directors)

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered by the Board to be routine, and will be approved/enacted by the Board in one motion in the form listed below. Unless specifically requested by a Board member for further discussion, or removed from the agenda, there will be no discussion of these items prior to the Board voting on them.

- 1. Approval of Minutes of August 2021 Regular Meeting**
- 2. Approval of August 2021 Monthly Invoices**

3. **Approval of K12/Stride Invoices**
4. **Approval of August Financial Report**
5. **Enrollment Report**

Motion was made by Chairman Thompson to approve the Consent Agenda Items, as presented.

Motion seconded by Chairman Krein.
Motion approved, unanimously.

IV. SCHEDULED FOR ACTION.

A. BUSINESS ITEMS (Requiring Approval Vote)

1. Approval of the School Audit – Tim Hoyt

Mr. Hoyt reviewed the school's Annual Fiscal Audit for the 2020-2021 school year. He thanked the school's administration for its support. He indicated that all was in good order and that there were no compliance problems.

Mr. Hoyt reviewed the individual reports and finances for the year. He indicated that the school does not have any problem with documentation and there were no significant findings.

Mr. Hoyt addressed the Federal Programs funds and his review of such program funds. He detailed how the work on the Federal Program funds is differently done. He also indicated that everything with these Program funds checked out as they should.

Mr. Hoyt reported that the financial programs of the school are working as they should and are in good order. He indicated that the 3.2 million balance credit functions as intended, and assures the school will never have a negative balance.

Other funds were reviewed by Mr. Hoyt with the Board. He also touched upon all funds, including the additional federal funds and special state set-aside funds associated with ESSER and COVID issues.

Mr. Hoyt stood for questions. He confirmed to Chairman Handeen that there was no bad news and no deficiencies. He indicated that the internal controls are good and there are no concerns.

Motion was made by Chairman Handeen to approve the school fiscal audit for the 2020-2021 school year, as presented.

Motion seconded by Director Thompson.
Motion approved, unanimously.

2. Stride Career Prep Program for High School – Kelly Edginton and Nick Sutherland

Mr. Sutherland, Stride's Director of Career Learning for the Western Region, provided the Directors with a report on the development of a Career Prep Program possible for IDVA's High School. This program starts with an 8th grade Career Preparation Exploration Program, which explores various careers and educates students as to what is involved to accomplish such a career. It is possible to earn High School elective credits for this class.

Stride has a full High School Career Preparation program that is already in place. They would like the Board to consider a High School Course program for next school year, which would put the school into a preparation status.

Details of such a possible program were discussed, as well as what takes place in the exploratory phase of this year, if the Board is inclined for exploration. The school would examine student interest and put together a program that meets those needs, including dual enrollment courses and a pathway for students to achieve their individual goals. The full program typically takes a two (2) year period of program development.

Ms. Edginton and Mr. Sutherland stood for questions.

Ms. Edginton's request to the Board was a request that the Board approve the commencement of a process to build an IDVA Career Preparation Program.

Ms. Edginton clarified that this program is separate from the Dual Enrollment program.

Chairman Handeen raised inquiry associated with costs and impacts to the school's budget. There are course charges in this program, just as there are course charges for other courses. There is a partner agreement that addresses tools and professional associations bundled in support costs.

Inquiry was raised with regard to possible impact and discussion with the Charter Commission. This would certainly be part of the process of the program review and development. This is also likely to be something addressed in the school's Performance Certificate. This would be similar to the steps and activities involved in the development of the Alternative School Program.

In response to an inquiry, Mr. Sutherland provided the Directors with an example of a pathway for a student to pursue with a goal as a nursing assistant.

Discussion was held as to the impact upon electives if a student chooses this pathway. If a student starts the process early in their high school career, it is much easier for them to fulfill their pathway goals through electives, having additional remaining.

Discussion was held as to what impact there could be in competing with other specialized charter programs. This is an unknown, as the school's individual pathways are not determined without studying the student's interests.

Motion was made by Director Krein for the school to start the process involved to build an IDVA Career Preparation Program, without any commitment or obligation to actually commence the program as of this time.

Motion seconded by Chairman Thompson.
Motion approved, unanimously.

3. Certified Evaluation Measures – Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton detailed for the Directors the activities of the Evaluation Policy Committee with Ms. Whelan and the teachers. They met extensively last year, as well as already this year. Part of their responsibility is to address statutory changes, but also to address measures for the academic portion of teacher evaluations, providing teacher input and as agreed upon by the teachers.

The measures for the academic portion of the evaluation were reviewed with each of the departments, and all activities as required by statute, including measures and targets, have been met. Ms. Edginton provided survey information from the teachers. The K-5 program wishes to use pass rates. The 6-12 program wishes to use pass rates. The Special Education Department wishes to use IEP goals. The counseling department wishes to use graduation rates. Ms. Edginton agrees with each of these measures and would recommend Board approval.

Motion was made by Chairman Handeen to approve each of the departments chosen evaluation measures for performance, as presented.

Motion seconded by Director Krein.
Motion approved, unanimously.

4. Approval of Jacob Houtrouw to access IDVA financial accounts - Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton introduced Mr. Houtrouw and his position with Stride. He will be working with IDVA on its financial accounts. He is a Finance Manager in training. John Kramer, Head of Financial/Business Operations and Compliance for Stride, was also present at the meeting. He explained the various transitions that have been taking place in Stride's financial program and personnel.

Mr. Houtrouw will continue orientation, and during the next couple of meetings, he will be introduced to the process and the Board.

Stride personnel stood for questions.

Motion was made by Chairman Handeen to approve allowing Jacob Houtrouw to have access to IDVA's financial accounts.

Motion seconded by Director Thompson.

Motion approved, unanimously.

5. Bilateral DE MOU ITCA- IDVA – Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton addressed a proposed bilateral Dual Enrollment MOU between IDVA and its sister school. ITCA does have various career pathways. Each school has courses that the other does not, which could benefit students. The schools use the same platforms and systems, which are already familiar to students. This type of a program is better for kids than them signing up for the same courses at other programs. Ms. Edginton gave a number of examples of programs that students would take advantage of.

Ms. Edginton indicated that counsel has reviewed and made edits to the proposed MOU. Ms. Edginton stood for questions.

Motion was made by Director Krein that the Board approve the Bilateral MOU between IDVA and ITCA for dual enrollment courses.

Motion seconded by Chairman Handeen.

Motion approved, unanimously.

6. IDVA Continuous Improvement Plan – Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton returned the Board to the school's proposed Continuous Improvement Plan. The Board last reviewed this Plan during its July

meeting. Since that time, the school now has solid data inserted into this Plan.

Ms. Edginton and the Directors engaged in a year over discussion, and the fact that there is historical turnover of students that impacts data.

This Plan needs to be submitted to the state by October 1st and posted on the school's website.

Ms. Edginton stood for questions and engaged in discussion with Chairman Handeen about elements of the Plan.

Motion was made by Chairman Handeen to approve the school's Continuous Improvement Plan, as presented, and to submit such Plan to the required entities and post it on the school's website.

Motion seconded by Director Thompson.
Motion approved, unanimously.

7. IDVA ARP ESSER Plan – Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton addressed the IDVA ARP ESSER Plan for ESSER III that was reviewed and approved by the Board this summer. This Plan was reviewed and discussed during the annual back-to-school parent meeting. The Plan was presented, and input was received. The Plan has also been on the website for input.

Ms. Edginton addressed learning loss as a key element of the Plan. The school, as a virtual program, does not have the same issues with facilities and COVID, as would occur in a brick and mortar school with ESSER funds – such as HVAC.

Chairman Handeen engaged in inquiry with Ms. Edginton.

Motion was made by Director Thompson to approve the IDVA ARP ESSER Plan, as presented.

Motion seconded by Director Krein.
Motion approved, unanimously.

8. October In-Person School Events - Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton and the Board addressed the decisions made at the August Board Meeting in relation to in-person school events and Ms. Edginton bringing upcoming events to the Directors each month for a discussion and consideration.

Ms. Edginton exercised the authority granted to her by the Board and cancelled the August in-person school events. Ms. Edginton raised the October in-person events with the Board. Discussion was held as to whether or not the Plan should remain in place, giving Ms. Edginton authority, or if some other option should be explored.

Ms. Edginton did address the time and efforts associated with planning events and the impact of cancelling these events just shy of the activity.

Motion was made by Director Thompson to have all in-person school events put on hold until a later decision by the Board, without requiring Ms. Edginton to individually make a call to cancel events.

Motion seconded by Chairman Handeen.
Motion approved, unanimously.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS (Informational)

No matters scheduled or addressed.

C. POLICY READINGS (Requiring an Approval Vote)

No matters scheduled or addressed.

D. PERSONNEL REPORT (Requiring an approval vote)

1. Personnel Report – Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton presented the Directors with the Personnel Report for September of 2021. This report was presented in writing and included teacher requests for release and replacement hires, as well as two temporary positions in K-4, funded with K-4 learning loss grant funds from the Governor's Task Force.

Motion was made by Chairman Handeen to approve the personnel report, as presented.

Motion seconded by Director Krein.
Motion approved, unanimously.

2. Employee Request to work outside LEA – Stookey – Kelly Edginton

3. Employee Request to work outside LEA – Zinio – Kelly Edginton

4. Employee Request to work outside LEA – Knight – Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton presented the three (3) requests by personnel to engage in work outside of the LEA. She reviewed each of the requests and recommended that the Board approve each of these requests.

Motion was made by Chairman Handeen to approve the three personnel requests to work outside the LEA, as presented.

Motion seconded by Director Thompson.
Motion approved, unanimously.

E. INSTRUCTION AND CURRICULUM.

1. 2021 ISAT Results – Kelly Edginton

Ms. Edginton provided the 2020-21 school year ISAT results to the Directors with final data. Ms. Edginton compared these figures to the 2018-19 school year. She reviewed areas of improvement, decline and comparisons to state averages.

Ms. Edginton identified improvements in math, which has always been a challenge. HS Math and ELA are both higher than state average.

Ms. Edginton stood for questions.

F. PUPIL SERVICES.

No Business Scheduled or Held.

VI. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. ISBA Convention Discussion- November 17-19/2021

Ms. Edginton returned the Directors to a discussion regarding attending the convention, as currently scheduled to be in-person with a corresponding in-person Board meeting. The convention is currently set to be in person, but there is the possibility of going entirely on-line depending upon the COVID situation.

The Board can revisit this issue during its October meeting and make some decisions at that time.

B. School Credit Card Discussion

This matter was tabled due to Trustee Shaver's absence. Trustee Thompson and Trustee Shaver have met to discuss the issue, and this information will be shared at the next Board Meeting. Generally, there is agreement that a national credit card is needed.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session Scheduled or Held.

VIII. ACTION, IF ANY, TO BE TAKEN SUBSEQUENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

No Action was Scheduled or Held.

IX. BOARD MEMBER INPUT FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND INFORMATION SOUGHT BY BOARD MEMBERS.

No matters were raised by any Trustee.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Director McPherson was welcomed to her first meeting. Chairman Handeen indicated that he understands the learning curve, and that the Directors will provide her with whatever assistance she needs.

Director Krein made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned.

Motion seconded by Trustee McPherson.

Motion approved, unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm MDT.

Respectfully Submitted this day, September 16, 2021

Mike Groshong
Board Clerk