

## Hoosier Academy Board Minutes

November 19, 2015

### Preliminary:

- A. Call to Order: John Marske called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.
- B. Roll Call: John Luta, present; John Marske present; George Giltner, present; Gary Meyer, present, Ron Brumbarger, present; and April Turner, present virtually.

Staff Present: Brian Nash, teacher; Alissa Davis, teacher; Carrie McClain, K12 Northern Region; Dominique Franklin, academic administrator; Dana Smith, Title I; Kathy Coe, K12 operations; Jena Davis, RTI Coordinator; Kellye Ayala, FAST; Sal Ayala, FAST; Patsy Woods, special education; Andrea Ettenberger, academic administrator; Chris Chalker, academic administrator; Jennifer Lyons, teacher; Rachele and Mike Skaggs, parents; Time and Leanne Lamb, parents; Brad White, teacher, Letrisha Weber, parent; Liz Breeden, teacher; Cindy Wright, K12 RVP. Virtual attendance: Shannon Erik, parent.

### C. Approval of the October 27, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes:

Ron Brumbarger motioned to approve the October 17, 2015 minutes. Gary Meyer seconded. The motion passed.

### D. Adoption of November Agenda:

Ron Brumbarger motioned to approve the November agenda. John Luta seconded. The motion passed.

### E. Oral Communication:

No oral communications were made.

### Hoosier Academy- School and Student Outcomes:

#### A. Academic Report: *Dr. Chris Chalker, Andrea Ettenberger and Dominique Franklin.*

Dr. Chris Chalker presented the academic progress for hybrid K-8 that is based on whether they are mastering the material or not. When looking at high school progress is based on pass rates.

Hybrid kindergarten, over a four week period has a progress rate of 2.3; first grade is 3.2; second grade is 5.2; third grade is 3.3; fourth grade is 3.4. Our benchmark for this is having a 3% progress each week. If you see a big dip, that would mean we were on fall break and not in school.

The graphs below we want to see a lot of blue and green. Yellow is our caution area and orange and red are our danger areas. Some of our variables is that some of the classes have a lot of new students, and Special Ed students. When there are several new students that start in a small class to begin with, it impacts the progress rates because they are playing catch up.

Ron Brumbarger asked what is the progress rate? Dr. Chalker stated that on the K-8 level, we go on mastery so it is progress to mastery with a weekly goal of 3% wanting to get to 100% by the end of

the school year. Brumbarger followed up with how do we keep the kids that have the 5% challenged? Dr. Chalker shared that we have students taking a higher level subject.

Looking at the progress for 5-8 grade, with 8<sup>th</sup> grade at 1.4, there has been a drastic decrease because the past 3 weeks in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade because we have picked up a fourth or a third of new students. 5<sup>th</sup> grade is flat lined because they have not gotten any new students, but 6<sup>th</sup> grade is also seeing a decrease because they too have gotten some new students.

John Luta asked why are we seeing new students this time of year? Dr. Chalker replied that we get new students throughout the school year.

The high school grades are showing the pass rates in the number of courses, and we want to see the blue, green and yellow because that orange, red and black means they are failing their courses. 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades are a challenge because they have a lot in the red, orange and black. We have things set in place to help those students in the orange and yellow. 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> are ideal because we got about 80%, which is where we were at last year; our goal this year is 90% pass rate. We are working really hard with our 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades.

John Luta commended Dr. Chalker for the passing rates progress in comparison to the past.

English and Math Lab USA Test Prep data for high school ECA retakes data for benchmark 2 is easy because we are talking about writing. We went up from 51% to 59% since the diagnostic test in writing. We are pleased with the improvements but still have work to do. Math lab is for kids that did not pass ECA's in the past are automatically placed in the Math or English labs. We had the most growth in math from 30% at the diagnostic to 55% at the benchmark with linear equations and equalities. Dr. Chalker shared the efforts that are being done in the classroom for English and Math such as reading comprehension practices and writing practices, and open ended math questions and utilizing tutors.

Andrea Ettenberger presented the academic progress for virtual K-8 that is based on whether they are mastering the material or not. The average weekly progress in K is 2.3; 1<sup>st</sup> is 2.6; 2<sup>nd</sup> is 2.4; 3<sup>rd</sup> is 2.6; 4<sup>th</sup> is 2.5; 5<sup>th</sup> is 2.1; 6<sup>th</sup> is 1.9; 7<sup>th</sup> is 1.9 and 8<sup>th</sup> is 1.6.

Our red bar is much higher than we would like it to be and we are working on implementing a strategy to help those unengaged students.

John Marske asked if the reason those bars are lower is because they are getting more students? Ettenberger shared that they are getting new students, just not getting a gigantic influx of new students.

Pick 5 Strategy starts on Monday for unengaged students. Teacher picks five students that are unengaged; they are not answering k mail, they are not attending any small groups or Class Connects, or they are not making any progress. The teacher will gather all of the data for that student and will attend office hours with me where we go over the strategies that will help them get engaged.

John Marske clarified the difference between FAST and truancy and Pick 5; Ettenberger shared that Pick 5 is the teacher making that extra effort day to day. FAST is not calling every day. Marske followed up with then when do we make the decision that this student is never going to be engaged

and it needs to go to the next group. Teachers provide follow up weekly with Ettenberger and can allow for the FSL's to get involved and create Back on Track Plans and monitor the 3, 5, 8 and 10 days from a legal standpoint.

Dominique Franklin presented on the pass rates for virtual high school as of November 19<sup>th</sup>. All of the courses taken by our students, we have 9,603 courses taken and our pass rate is 48.7%. Out of our 9,603 courses, we have 1,713 courses with 0-8%. Those are students who are unengaged, not logging attendance, so those are our focus. Looking at our Hoosier taught courses, not the IST or Middleberry courses, we are at about 50% pass rate. Our target is to hit 60.3% first semester. Will be able to show and provide grade level as well as content at the end of semester.

44% of our 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders are new to use this year. Meyer is wondering what this group of students looks like in comparison to those who have been here; what is their improvement, is what Meyer would like to know because these are the statements that people need to know because it's more important to you to show yourselves the progress you've made.

John Marske asked realistically, how many credits can a student recover in a year if they are credit deficient? Dominique stated that every 6 weeks they have an opportunity to take a credit recovery course on top of their 5 regular course work. Marske commented that we do whatever we can, but that's a big step that they have to take.

Electives have the highest pass rate at 64.5% and are lowest being English with 44% and math at 44.9%.

USA Test Prep Benchmark 2 was given for math lab and these are students who will be taking ECA's December 7<sup>th</sup>. Math lab teachers are going to focus on specific interventions after Benchmark 3, they are going to offer multiple session times, one-on-one sessions, and will use missed questions on these assessments for small group.

English lab Benchmark 2 comparisons have seen a growth of +7% and 9%, and English lab teachers are going to do the same focus strategy after Benchmark 3, and they are measuring with exit tickets as well.

#### ***B. RTI Update: Jena Davis***

DR. Ernest formally introduced Jena Davis as the new RTI Coordinator to the board and shared that she is going a great job in her new role.

Dr. Ernest also updated the board on the RTI manual that is in Dropbox; it is currently with legal for review and we are operating under the manual. It is not a governance piece, but we would like for you to approve the manual in December from more of an operational standpoint. As you know, that has been our practice; having legal look at everything that we do.

Jena shared with the board the RTI tiers to have an understanding of the process; Tier I refers to the instruction in the general education classroom; Tier II refers to interventions that are provided to small groups of students who need more support than they are receiving in Tier I; and Tier III refers to the interventions that are provided to individual students.

We have identified Tier II students in October using the universal screener data; DIBELS and NWEA scores. Davis shared that students identified are in grades K-3. Virtual has 198 and hybrid has 9 in the RTI process. The percentage of virtual students in Tier II by grade level: K=31%, 1<sup>st</sup>=39%, 2<sup>nd</sup>=13% and 3<sup>rd</sup>=28%. The percentage of hybrid students in Tier II by grade level: K=0%, 1<sup>st</sup>=0%, 2<sup>nd</sup>=22% and 3<sup>rd</sup>=35%. The total number of Tier II students is 207; 28% virtual and 17% hybrid.

Davis shared the number of students in RTI compared to the amount of student per grade level. Data shows that 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade have the most students. Reading is a higher area for RTI interventions, and there have been no referrals October and November.

Meyer shared that he would like to know and see how we can keep these students to see them become good students. Dr. Ernest commented that the area where we lose a lot of students is in grades K, 1, 2, 3; and those grades rely heavily on learning coach involvement. Dr. Ernest shared that we will dig into that data and have something to report back to you in the future.

### ***C. Title I Update: Dana Smith***

Dana Smith provided Title I updates and shared that there are interventionist working with RTI and Title I students who have been identified with data who need that additional support. Interventionists are meeting with their students in Class Connect sessions as well as using supplemental programs that students are working through such as I-Ready. I-Ready is adaptive to the students' level of need.

### ***D. Charter Renewal Site Visit: Dr. Ernest***

Dr. Ernest informed the board that the school just finished their charter renewal 3 day site visit. Ball State was impressed with how knowledgeable our staff was and he is very proud of that because that says something about the culture.

There will be a board and finance portion yet to go, but that has not been set up. It will be done by Brian Carpenter. More to follow, but I wanted to give you that update.

An item that wasn't on the agenda but I want to mention to you all is regarding attendance. This will be a policy that we will bring forth at the next meeting. It is actually legal right now; and will come to your committee. We are finding that we have a percent of students who are doing work, but their parents are not logging attendance; which was talked about last board meeting and during the Head of School's call. What we have done is worked with the Department of Education on this as well as Carrie McClain with K-12 on the operations side. We need to propose a change, not to the handbook, but a policy, that would allow for students who are doing work and making progress, but their parents are not logging in, we do not want to penalize those students. The Department of Education has concurred with us that this should not be happening. We are in the process and working on the draft with legal and will be meeting with Ron's committee on this, but since we have students and after talking with legal today, and since the Department of Ed thinks that we need to be doing this, we are going to go ahead and start working with those students and move on. Legal concurred that it's a good thing for us to do at this point. That will give us a month of these folks to be working with this, and we can see some nuances that will help us develop it even better.

Marske asked how do you know if a student or parent is logging in? Carrie McClain shared that students and learning coaches have different logins.

## **Hoosier Academy- Financial, Legal and School Operations**

### ***A. Community Report: Rachael Borrelli***

Rachael Borrelli reviewed the events for the month as well as the upcoming events through December. Encouraged the board to attend the Hoosier Got Talent show on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. She also highlighted the numbers from the Hoosier website of [hoosier.k12start.com](http://hoosier.k12start.com). Borrelli shared that they have offered 88 events state wide this semester to our families and the policy that the board passed has really encouraged our staff to host and attend more events.

### ***B. Enrollment Report: Kathy Coe***

Kathy Coe presented the enrollment numbers for November: Hybrid is 254 and virtual is 3858. The report broke down total enrollment by grade level, and there are 178 families currently on waitlist.

### ***C. Compliance Report: Kathy***

Coe updated the board on reports that are being work on for the state, highlighted the reports that are currently being worked on, and stated that they are up to date on compliance. Special Education is our next big report due to the state.

### ***D. Personnel Report: Kathy Coe***

Coe updated the board on personnel; 1 new hire, 1.5 HA Virtual teacher on medical leave and 1 HA Virtual teacher who was terminated.

### ***E. Financial Report: Ted Gonzalez***

Ted Gonzalez reported on the vouchers for October for both virtual and hybrid and the actual versus revised budget for both hybrid and virtual. Highlighted the major expenses and teacher funding.

Gary Meyer motion to approve the both vouchers, virtual and hybrid. Ron Brumbarger seconded.

Ron Brumbarger had a question regarding Lewis and Kappes; the payment is a retainer for legal advice regarding special education which comes from the IDEA funds.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Luta: YES, Marske: YES, Giltner: YES, Meyer: YES, Brumbarger: YES, and Turner: YES. Motion passed 6-0.**

Gary Meyer motioned to accept the October financial report for audit. Ron Brumbarger seconded.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Luta: YES, Marske: YES, Giltner: YES, Meyer: YES, Brumbarger: YES, and Turner: YES. Motion passed 6-0.**

## Hoosier Academy- Committee Reports

### **A. Personnel Committee Report: John Marske**

John Marske discussed the proposed insurance plans for 2016 calendar year and read Resolution 2015-9. Marske informed the board that allocations remained the same from 2015 and a plan was eliminated. Ron Brumbarger moved to accept the proposed insurance plan for 2016. Gary Meyer seconded.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Luta: YES, Marske: YES, Giltner: YES, Meyer: YES, Brumbarger: YES, and Turner: YES. Motion passed 6-0.**

### **B. Board Advisory Committee Report: Ron Brumbarger**

Ron Brumbarger shared that next month there will be a report for the board regarding grievance, RTI and attendance.

### **C. Academic Committee Report: John Luta**

No report to present this month.

### **D. Finance Committee Report, Gary Meyer**

No report to present this month.

## Hoosier Academy- Board Development

### **A. Nomination of new board member: John Marske**

John Marske introduced the resume of new board member Robert Hall.

George Giltner motioned to approve the nomination of Robert Hall as a new board member. Gary Meyer seconded.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Luta: YES, Marske: YES, Giltner: YES, Meyer: YES, Brumbarger: YES, and Turner: YES. Motion passed 6-0.**


Next board meeting: Thursday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, Franklin Road. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Respectfully submitted,


Nadina McFann

Signatures for approval of November 19, 2015 Minutes:



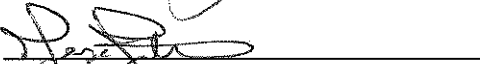
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John Marske, Board Chair



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John Luta, Board Vice Chairman



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George Giltner, Board Secretary

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Ron Brumbarger, Board Member



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Gary Meyer, Board Treasurer

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April Turner, Board Member