

HOOSIER ACADEMY BOARD MINUTES

September 23, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Board President John Marske at 5:40 PM, Tuesday, September 23, 2014. Board members present: John Marske, John Luta, Dynelle Pelsy-Bowyer, Stacie Porter Bilger and Lesley Neff.

Staff Present: Dr. Byron Ernest, Head of School; Dominique Franklin, High School VS Academic Administrator; Dr. Chris Chalker, High School/Middle School HY Academic Administrator; Patsy Woods, SPED Coordinator; Kathy Coe, Operations Manager; Paul Runyan, High School HY Counselor; Teachers Brian Nash, Lyndsay Sheridan, Amber Mason, Jennifer Lyons and Elizabeth Breeden; and Rachael Borrelli, Community Events Coordinator. K12 attendees: Cindy Wright Carter, Deputy Regional Vice President, Leslie Schott, Finance; Jennifer Waterman, Marketing; and Keith Isom, Regional IT. Also in attendance: Robert Scott, Board Attorney; Nadina McFann, new Board Liaison; and Leanne Lamb, Parent.

Approval of August 2014 Minutes:

The minutes were approved with the correction of "John Luta called the meeting to order in the absence of John Marske".

Adoption of September Agenda:

John Marske added an additional item "VI. Old Business" to the agenda. **Stacie Porter Bilger moved that the September Agenda be approved with the additional item. Dynelle Pelsy-Bowyer seconded. The motion passed.**

Oral Communication:

There was no oral communication

Student Handbook:

Paul Runyan and Dr. Chalker cleaned up the handbook. Chalker reviewed suggested changes: ISP reimbursement need for Free and Reduced Lunch Form each year to qualify: under Code of Conduct there are four classes of offenses in handbook which are particularly used at the hybrid center / clarification of sexual harassment and threat of force have been moved to class 4 offenses with consequences including 10 day suspension, meeting with parent, probation or possible expulsion; the organizational charts have been updated for VS HS and HA HY 7-12: Runyan shifted to HY, Registrar and State Compliance have been added under Operations and the Director of Guidance is now listed on the Administration chart. The Handbook will be under constant review and updated. Those changes will be brought to the board for approval. Board Dropbox folders will also be cleaned up to include these documents.

Bilger moved that the changes to the Student Handbook be accepted. Pelsy-Bowyer The Board accepted the changes as presented. b moved d 2nd

Ball State University Charter School Leadership Summit Report:

Dr. Ernest reported on the two-day Summit held October 4-5 at Ball State. Ernest and Marske represented Hoosier Academy on Thursday and teacher/leader Mallory Mills joined them on Friday. The theme was "What We Know". Four areas addressed were to ensure high quality schools with improved options, the means to foster schools that meet needs, plus accountability which together equal high quality education. Also addressed was school economy and an accountability piece that together equal high quality education. Ball State has the framework in draft form regarding their accountability.

Hoosier Academy has completed a first draft of our Academic Plan which focuses on Math, English, Writing, Science and Career and College Development, areas which fit with Ball State's draft.

Marske added that all Ball State Charter Schools were represented at the summit. The important thing about the Ball State framework is that it is a standard and, although each school is unique, schools need to be accountable to explain why if they do not hit some of the bars.

Introduction of new Deputy Regional Vice President:

Ernest introduced new Deputy Regional Vice President Cindy Wright Carter who transitions to this role with excellent qualifications as Stephanie Hargens moves to new K12 duties in Great Britain. Carter shared that she is excited about this new role and emphasized that we will work together to become systematic in our reports to meet necessary requirements.

Enrollment Report:

Kathy Coe reported as of September 19 our count was VS 3321, HY 299. Count date is September 26. We are on two-week cohorts. Next cohort is Sept 27.

Community Report:

Rachael Borrelli shared website data: almost 14,000 hits. Website is rich with information. Our school has most website activity of all K12 schools. Activity went up in numbers on contact page with updated staff extension list.

Borrelli reported on August/September community events in a variety of state-wide locations. Next big activity is reading Diary of a Wimpy Kid and then attending the movie. High School students will be reading Divergent and then attending this movie. Library and Orchard Days are also coming up. Staff photos have been added to the website.

Compliance Report:

Coe shared that our compliance reports are up-to-date. Membership report is due September 26. Conflicts with DOE are being managed much better this year. Focus is on clearing conflicts (occurs when student is recorded at our school AND another Indiana public/private school) prior to submittal. The DOE process also recognizes fourth graders who did not pass IREAD and should have been retained. We will add Sapphire documents and dates that Ball State requires next month. These reports coordinate with DOE reports and are not meant to be duplicate work.

K12 Compliance Report was reviewed. Coe reported metrics on student retention rate by teacher. Our goal is 49% VS, 51% HY. We rank above other K12 schools in retention. Other ways of viewing the information will be investigated. Hoosier Academy is at 81% for welcome calls. This helps with retention rate and make the initial connection which is critical. Internal review and funding reports are sent to Ball State and K12 prior to submission to the state. Patsy Woods indicated that SPED numbers reflect

some students who have been accepted, but have not started. Coe has taken advantage of K12 Operations Training. Test Training will be done and a Testing Coordinator is still being sought.

Personnel Report:

Coe welcomed new teachers: Brian Sturgeon, Marcy Groulik, Nicole Newton, Marissa Smith and Alexis Wyman. There were no terminations this month. Kent Martin, Data Compliance Coordinator, a new K12 employee is now on board.

Financials:

Leslie Schott reviewed the financial reports for both the Virtual and Hybrid schools, as well as explaining the balance sheet for both. Ivy Tech has submitted their invoice and K12 is in the process of signing a national agreement with them.

AP Vouchers were reviewed and board questions answered.

John Luta moved to accept the Financial Reports for audit and approve the August Accounts Payable Vouchers. Leslie Neff seconded. The motion passed.

New Service Agreement for 403b Program:

Former plan sponsor Indiana Charter Association has gone away and Hoosier Academy is now the plan sponsor of the same Mass Mutual program. Mass Compensation Systems will do the administration and reconciliation of the program. There will be no change in options and plans; and, the cost will actually be better. New agreements will be signed.

Luta moved to approve the new service agreement for the 403b program. Bilger seconded. The motion passed.

Board Committee Reports

Ad Hoc Committee: John Luta presented the newly hired Board Liaison, Nadina McFann. As a previous Hoosier Academy employee, Nadina brings knowledge and skills to this position.

There were no other Board Committee reports.

Old Business presented by John Luta.:

We have circulated to the Board a resolution for approval of a settlement and release of litigation currently pending in the Marion Superior Court. The Board has been provided information regarding the litigation and the proposed settlement and release, and the settlement and release has been recommended by counsel representing the School and the School's insurer to resolve the litigation. Accordingly, I move the resolution, as presented, authorizing the Head of Schools to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release on behalf of the School and to take any and all steps necessary or desirable to carry out the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement and Release. Lesley Neff seconded. The motion passed.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.

Next Board Meeting: October 28, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Recorded by Kathy Coe / Transcribed by Norma Jean Graves

Signatures for approval of September 23, 2014 Minutes:

John Marske, Board Chair

John Luta, Board Treasurer

Lesley Neff, Board Secretary

Dynelle Pelsy-Bowyer, Board Member

Stacie Porter Bilger, Board Member