



APPROVED 11/16/2015

Indiana Connections Academy (INCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

Held at the following location and via teleconference:
6640 Intech Boulevard, Suite 250
Indianapolis, IN 46278

I. Call to Order

In the absence of a quorum of Board members, Mr. Rhinesmith indicated the Board's intent to hear Oral Reports and Information Items until additional members of the Board could join the meeting. The meeting location was open to the public to attend.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present In Person: Robbie Rhinesmith and Erika Wise (in person);

Board Members Joined During Meeting: Stacy Taylor (in person);

Board Members Absent: Richard Ellery;

Guests Present: Tony Brose, School staff (in person); Melissa Brown, School Principal; Susan Stagner, Allison Reaves, Brenda Little and Laura Karns, Connections staff (via phone).

Information Items

At the request of the Board, this item was moved up on the agenda.

State Relations Update

Ms. Stagner provided the Board with an update on legislative activities which may impact the school.

Oral Report

At the request of the Board, this item was moved up on the agenda.

Principal's Report

Enrollment Update and Staffing

Ms. Brown reviewed the school's current enrollment numbers with the Board, including those students in the pre-approval and approved phases of their applications. She also updated the Board on staffing and training efforts.

Back to School Activities Update

Ms. Brown discussed with the Board recent back to school activities, including successful orientations with students, families and teachers.

Charter Renewal Update

Ms. Brown advised the Board of the review and compilation process for the Charter Renewal with Ball State University. She further advised of all parties involved, including herself, Board designees, Ms. Taylor and Mr. Rhinesmith, and Connections. Ms. Brown also reviewed the timeline for submission of the Charter Renewal to Ball State on behalf of the Board.

Information Items

At the request of the Board, this item was moved up on the agenda.

National Charter School Conference (NCSC) Feedback

Ms. Wise provided the Board with an update on her trip to the National Charter Schools Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the conference and noted the value of the information that was presented and the access to many involved in the charter school movement.

[Ms. Stagner left the meeting at 4:51 p.m.]

School Leadership Team Update

Ms. Reaves advised the Board that she, as a representative of Connections' School Leadership Team, would be providing monthly updates throughout the school year on a variety of topics believed to be of interest to the Board and the school. She provided the Board with a brief review of technology currently in place at the school, upgrades to systems made since the school's opening, as well as the initiative to provide laptops to all teachers at the school.

[Ms. Taylor joined the meeting at 4:54 p.m.]

Call to Order

Having a quorum of the Board present, Ms. Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:58 p.m. when all participants were present and able to hear each other.

III. Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

IV. Routine Business

a. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Taylor asked the Board to review the Agenda distributed prior to the meeting. There being no changes noted, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the September 29, 2015 meeting of the Board of Directors of Indiana Connections Academy, as presented, is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Audit Committee, Committee of the Entire Board

a. Review and Acceptance of the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year Audit Report

Ms. Little reviewed the audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, as included in the Board materials. She highlighted key aspects of the report, and related to the Board that the audit firm indicated no findings; Ms. Little advised that the report was the best result the school can achieve. Board members discussed the audit report, and expressed their satisfaction with the school and Connections for the results. There being no additional discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, the Audit Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, as presented, is hereby accepted.

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Oral Report

a. Principal's Report

i. Enrollment Update and Staffing

This item was presented earlier in the meeting.

ii. Back to School Activities Update

This item was presented earlier in the meeting.

iii. Charter Renewal Update

This item was presented earlier in the meeting.

b. Financial Report

Ms. Little reviewed the revenue and expense statements included in the Board materials. She reviewed the changes in the financials and the forecasted expenses since last month's statements, enrollment funding, projected fund balance and specific expenses. The Board discussed the financial report.

VII. Consent Agenda

Ms. Taylor asked the Board Members whether there were any items from the Consent Items that they wished to have moved to Action Items for discussion, or tabled. There being no items removed from the Consent Items, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the August 17, 2015 Board Meeting;
- b. Approval of Staffing Report;

- c. Approval of Case Management Invoice(s);
- d. Approval of Revision(s) to the 2015-2016 School Year General School Handbook: Enrollment, Withdrawal and Transfers; and
- e. Approval of Revision(s) to the 2015-2016 School Year State-Specific School Handbook: Seclusion and Restraint Policy; are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Action Items

a. Approval of Connections Academy of Indiana, LLC Invoices for July and August

Ms. Wise reviewed in detail the July and August invoices as drawn from the financial report provided in the Board materials, and reviewed earlier in the meeting. She asked the Board members whether they had any questions on the invoices or if any items required further explanation. There being no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Connections Academy of Indiana, LLC invoices for July, in the amount of \$1,725,045.41 and August, in the amount of \$1,770,614.36, as presented, are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Officers for the 2015-2016 School Year

Ms. Karns reviewed with the Board Ms. Wise's desire to step down from the Board Treasurer position due to increased personal and work obligations. Mr. Rhinesmith volunteered to assume the role of Board Treasurer. There being no further nominations and no further discussion, a motion was made and seconded as follows:

RESOLVED, that the appointment of Robbie Rhinesmith as Board Treasurer for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year, is hereby approved.

The motion was approved unanimously.

IX. Information Items

a. National Charter School Conference (NCSC) Feedback

This item was presented earlier in the meeting.

b. State Relations Update

This item was presented earlier in the meeting.

c. School Leadership Team Update

This item was presented earlier in the meeting.

d. 2015-2016 School Year Items for Board Consideration

Ms. Karns reviewed the outline of items planned to be presented for Board consideration throughout the current school year. She further advised the Board that the document was fluid, and items may be included, omitted, or considered on a varied timeline based on a number of factors, including state submission and enrollment deadlines, as well as school need for student support.

e. Curriculum Town Hall Reminder

Ms. Karns reviewed with the Board the memo regarding changes to the annual curriculum development and review process for partnering Board members. She highlighted the specific changes in format for review, from the previous Curriculum Advisory Panel meetings to new twice annual town hall presentations, as well as the documentation regarding each year's curriculum build that will be provided to Board members for review and consideration. Ms. Karns advised the Board that these changes were the result of partnering Board member feedback, and that additional information on the town hall presentations would be forthcoming via email prior to the Board's next regular meeting.

f. Board Recruitment Update

Ms. Brown provided the Board with an update on the continued search for a new Board member and encouraged Board members to forward any potential Board member candidates to her and Ms. Karns.

X. Adjournment and Confirmation of Next Meeting - Monday, October 19, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. ET

The next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.