



Board Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2021

Board Members Present: Al Lopez, Collin Sewell, David Earl, Reba C. McNair, Erich Holmsten, Xenia Garza, Dr. Saam Zarrabi, Ed Rivera, Michael Burke

Board Members Not Present: Ryan Vaughan, David Handley

Staff and Consultants Present: Joseph Hoffer, Lisa Garza, Dolores Gonzalez, Martin Winchester, Phillip Garza, Samuel Goessling, Leanne Hernandez, Cody Grindle, Carlo Hershberger, Jessica Hess, Massie Ritsch, Jazmin Leon-Wing, Javier Campos, Layne Fisher, Jose Ramirez, IV., Maria Franco, Alejandra Loya, Tita Teran

Audience Present: Joann, Me, Maribel

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Al Lopez, at 9:43 AM CST

Summary of Motions and Approvals

1. The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to 551.071 (consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal issues and matters) and 551.074 (personnel) at 9:43 AM for the purposes to hear the employment hearing of Ms. JoAnn Gama, followed by the complaint of Mrs. Irma Munoz. Martin Winchester, legal counsel, and Jessica Hess were asked to stay for the closed session.

Motion by: Ed Rivera

Second by: Xenia Garza

Motion passed unanimously.

2. The Board passed a motion to approve a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 11:12 AM.

Motion by: Ed Rivera

Second by: Xenia Garza

Motion passed unanimously.

3. The Board passed a motion to uphold the termination of Mrs. JoAnn Gama.

Motion by: David Earl

Second by: Reba Cardenas McNair

Motion passed unanimously.

4. The Board passed a motion to uphold the termination of Mrs. Irma Munoz.

Motion by: David Earl



Second by: Reba McNair
Motion passed unanimously.

5. The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to 551.071 (consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal issues and matters) and 551.074 (personnel) at 11:15 AM.

Motion by: David Earl
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

6. The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 12:56 PM.

Motion by: Collin Sewell
Second by: Xenia Garza
Motion passed unanimously.

7. The Board passed a motion to appoint Michael Adams board of director to IDEA Public Schools' board effective August 20, 2021

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Erich Holmsten
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

8. The Board a motion to approve the use of the ESSER III Grant and subsequent budget amendments.

Motion by: Michael Burke
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

9. The Board passed a motion to approve the Accelerated Instruction Policy as presented today.

Motion by: Ed Rivera



Second by: Erich Holmsten
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

10. The Board passed a motion to approve the Grading Policy 2021-22.

Motion by: Xenia Garza
Second by: Ed Rivera
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

11. The Board passed a motion to approve the organizational core values.

Motion by: Michael Burke
Second by: Ed Rivera
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

12. The Board passed a motion to approve the NIFDI instruction procurement policy and board resolution.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten
Second by: David Earl
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

13. The Board passed a motion to approve the childcare provider pilot program for two Austin campuses with a checkpoint in December of the viability of the program.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

14. The Board passed a motion to approve the consent agenda in one board action: with the exception of the white fleet vehicles.

- a. Contract
 - i. Construction & Improvements



- ii. Non-Construction
 - 1. Software
 - 2. Copier Leases
 - 3. Transportation
 - 4. Storage Space Rental
 - 5. Marketing and Advertising: XMedia
- iii. Contract Ratification
 - b. May 14, 2021 Board Minutes
 - c. May 24-26, 2021 Board Minutes
 - d. June 3, 2021 Workshop Minutes
 - e. June 8, 2021 Workshop Minutes
 - f. June 11, 2021 Board Minutes
 - g. June 15, 2021 Board Minutes
 - h. May/June Committee Meeting Minutes
 - i. ADA Manual, 2021-22
 - j. IDEA Student Handbook, 21-22

Motion by: Xenia Garza
Second by: Ed Rivera
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

15. The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 PM.

Motion by: Collin Sewell
Second by: Ed Rivera
All in favor: All
Motion passed unanimously.

Welcome and Call to Order

Al Lopez, Board Chair, welcomed the Board Members to the July 23, 2021, Board of Directors’ meeting and confirmed quorum was present for the meeting in addition to members of the management team that were present as well. Mr. Lopez went on to state that given the Governor’s suspension of parts of the Open Meetings Act they are conducting today’s meeting via video conference and have a phone line for members of the public to join in the meeting should they wish to do so. Mr. Lopez asked for public comment to which Mrs. Jessica Hess indicated that no request for public comment had been received prior to the initiation of the meeting.



Public Comment

Jessica Hess confirmed there were no requests for public comment.

Employee and Staff Comment

Jessica Hess confirmed there were no requests for employee and staff comments.

Executive Session

The Board Chair confirmed that quorum was present and able to hear the matter. The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to 551.071 (consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal issues and matters) and 551.074 (personnel) at 9:43 AM for the purposes to hear the employment hearing of Ms. JoAnn Gama, followed by the complaint of Mrs. Irma Munoz. Martin Winchester, legal counsel, and Jessica Hess were asked to stay for the closed session.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 11:12 AM.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board Chair announced that no action occurred in closed session.

The Board passed a motion to uphold the termination of Mrs. JoAnn Gama.

Motion by: David Earl
Second by: Reba Cardenas McNair
All in favor: All
All opposed: None



Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to uphold the termination of Mrs. Irma Munoz.

Motion by: David Earl
Second by: Erich Holmsten
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to approve the transition into Executive Session to discuss matters pursuant to 551.071 (consultation with Legal Counsel regarding pending legal issues and matters) and 551.074 (personnel) at 11:15 AM.

Motion by: David Earl
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board passed a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 12:56 PM.

Motion by: Collin Sewell
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

The Board Chair announced that no action occurred in closed session.

The Board passed a motion to appoint Michael Adams board of director to IDEA Public Schools' board effective August 20, 2021.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Erich Holmsten
All in favor: All
All opposed: None



Motion passed unanimously.

Organizational Update

Al Lopez briefly presented the organizational update and indicated they would be getting a brief update in academic performance with regarding to enrollment and how they were slightly off track, retention is strong and operating income is on track.

Lisa Garza presented on the update on the STAAR performance and indicated that 79% of students took the STAAR. She further indicated it was not required to be taken as parents had the option not to test their children. In regard to the results, they score quite low, but are working hard to close the gaps and be prepared. She reiterated that a strong acceleration plan is in place to recover and brighten closer to grade-level.

Committee Reports:

Academic Committee (Xenia Garza)

The Academic Committee reviewed the Southern New Hampshire University dual enrollment pilot program, 1882 partnership with Midland ISD for a possible partnership, the STAAR Results 20-21 School Year, and the student cohort persistence data. The next Meeting: August 12, 2021 at 10:00 am.

Governance Committee (Collin Sewell)

The Governance Committee met twice this month to review the organizational core values and implementation plan, training plans to close the gaps on board officer training for the year, received an update from Sam Goessling on board recruitment and committed to interview plans for board member. The Committee also reviewed the CEO offer. And received an update in legal proceedings from Counsel.

Finance Committee (Erich Holmsten)

The Committee reviewed financial results and budget amendments for the month of May 2021, operating income on track, the CNP cash on hand on track, discussed the core values initiative and its budget, a compliance update on foundations school programs ADA report submission. The Committee reviewed pending grant applications and received an update on new grants awarded. The next meeting is on Jul 30, 2021 at 11:30 am.

Audit Committee (Ed Rivera)

The Committee met on June 25th and discussed the results of the scheduled procurement audit and discussed recommendations and corrective action plans, an update on the Whistleblower Activity report, and the senior leadership credit card and



meal activity for the month of May. The next meeting is on Jul 30, 2021 at 9:30 am.

Real Estate (David Earl)

The Committee met on June 29th and reviewed plans and made recommendations based on acquisitions and future planning. The next Real Estate committee meeting is August 10, 2021, at 10:00 am.

Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief III (ESSER Grant III)

Leanne Hernandez presented the update and changes based on feedback and comments received. 121M Focus areas: changes to the language special education and English language learners to benefit. Additional staff dedicate to support those areas. After-school enrichment. Student safety and security. The Board passed a motion to approve the use of the ESSER III Grant and subsequent budget amendments.

Motion by: Michael Burke
 Second by: Xenia Garza
 All in favor: All
 All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Accelerated Instruction Policy

Lisa Garza presented on the HB4545 that requires all districts and charter schools to establish an accelerated learning committee and develop an instruction plan for every student that failed the STARR test. The Board passed a motion to approve the Accelerated Instruction Policy as presented today.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
 Second by: Erich Holmsten
 All in favor: All
 All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Grading Policy 2021-22

Dolores Gonzalez presented on the Grading Policy 2021-22. Feedback from teachers and leaders to make sure we are reviewing categories and assessment vs. homework. Address the process teachers go through for missing or failing grades or failure to turn in work. Changed language on core tenants and it was reviewed by legal. The Board passed a motion to approve the Grading Policy 2021-22.



Motion by: Xenia Garza
 Second by: Ed Rivera
 All in favor: All
 All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Organizational Core Values

Martin Winchester presented on the organizational core values. The Board provided their comments with regard to the changes in the values. The Board passed a motion to approve the organizational core values.

Motion by: Michael Burke
 Second by: Ed Rivera
 All in favor: All
 All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Communications Officer

The Board passed a motion to approve the Acting CEO/Superintendent's recommendation related to position of Chief Communications Officer. The Board Chair indicated that follow-up items need to be conducted, and this item will be discussed after more clarification. This item was only discussed no action was taken.

Curriculum Provider Agreement and Procurement Matters

Joseph Hoffer, Board Counsel, presented on the details for the curriculum provider agreement and procurement matters. He indicated matters were discussed in closed session for motions on a resolution authorizing the procurement and agreement for NIFDI. The Board passed a motion to approve the NIFDI instruction procurement policy and board resolution.

Motion by: Erich Holmsten
 Second by: David Earl
 All in favor: All
 All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Child Care Provider Pilot Program for Austin Campuses



Joseph Hoffer, Board Counsel, indicated his item was also discussed in closed session. The Board passed a motion to approve the childcare provider pilot program for two Austin campuses with a checkpoint in December of the viability of the program.

Motion by: Ed Rivera
Second by: Xenia Garza
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Layne indicated they have some issues with procuring vehicles and will review with Leanne and team and bring back next meeting.

- a) Contract
 - i) Construction & Improvements
 - ii) Non-Construction
 - (1) Software
 - (2) Copier Leases
 - (3) Transportation
 - (4) Storage Space Rental
 - (5) Marketing and Advertising: XMedia
 - iii) Contract Ratification
- b) May 14, 2021 Board Minutes
- c) May 24-26, 2021 Board Minutes
- d) June 3, 2021 Workshop Minutes
- e) June 8, 2021 Workshop Minutes
- f) June 11, 2021 Board Minutes
- g) June 15, 2021 Board Minutes
- h) May/June Committee Meeting Minutes
- i) ADA Manual, 2021-22
- j) IDEA Student Handbook, 21-22

The board passed a motion to approve the consent agenda in one board action: with the exception of the white fleet vehicles.

Motion by: Xenia Garza



Second by: Ed Rivera
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

The Board passed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 PM. The Vice-Chair thanked the Chair for all his hard work and integrity.

Motion by: Collin Sewell
Second by: Ed Rivera
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Motion passed unanimously.

I certify that the foregoing are the true and correct minutes of the meeting of the Board Meeting of IDEA Public Schools held on July 23, 2021.

DocuSigned by:

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Ryan Vaughan, Board Secretary

8/24/2021

Date