

**Imagine Classical Academy**  
**Board Minutes**  
**Monday, December 4, 2017**



*Where students are classically trained, culturally literate, and globally prepared.*  
6464 Peterson Road • Colorado Springs, CO 80923



**Regular Meeting at 6:00pm in Room 209**

*The mission of the Imagine Classical Academy at Indigo Ranch is to positively shape the hearts and minds of our students by providing them with an academically rigorous and content rich curriculum, a learning environment of high expectations for student achievement in which character is modeled and promoted within a collaborative community based on trusting relationships.*  
*The Board shall use the Mission, the Motto and the Six Measures of Excellence (Shared Values, Parent Choice, Academic Growth, Character Education, Economic Sustainability, and School Development) as the filter for all decision making.*

- I. Call to Order – (6:06pm)
- II. Roll Call – (6:06pm) Chris Dempsey, Mike Phillipich, Markus Bahnemann, Natasha Dempsey (phone), Frank Fowler, Scott Hunter, Valerie OBrien, Nancy Box, Monte Lange, Brandon Dahl, Karen Tankersley, Kathy Sullivan-Orton and Heather Kelly. Michael Riggs was not present.
- III. Pledge of Allegiance – (6:07pm)
- IV. Mission Statement – (6:08pm)
- V. Approval of Board Meeting Agenda – (6:09pm) Markus Bahnemann motioned to approve the addenda with the minor change of moving down #16 to #17 inserting #16 board member communications. Chris seconded the motion with the change as presented. Motion passed 4-0
- VI. Comments from the public – (6:10pm) None
- VII. Approval of minutes from October 23 and November 27, 2017 – (6:11pm) Phillipich motioned to approved the minutes from both meetings as presented, Markus Bahnemann seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.
- VIII. Treasurer's/Business Manager's Report on Trend – (6:12pm) Michael Phillipich presented the October trend report noting that November has not been completed yet. He noted that D49 has paid based on 700.97 FTE up till this point, however our amended budget used 697.64 FT based on what we believed the final count to be. We are waiting to hear confirmation on this number. Also noted that the true up for SPED from the 2016-2017 school year was just over \$11k which was reflected in the October trend.
- IX. Principal's Report – (6:14pm) Frank Fowler presented the dashboard noting that the school is now up to a total of 4 suspensions, which reflects the recent restorative training practices we have initiated this school year. Nancy Box noted that we are continuing to review the strategic plan to confirm that it is in alignment with the SEP. Frank gave an update on the progress of the new playground and noted that we did have some vandalism on the site recently. The preschool playground is complete now, after redoing the pour in place that was damaged by vandalism last week. This weekend there was more vandalism to the larger playground. Mike and Natasha voiced concerns over the work completed and would like Frank to investigate further if the contractor completed the work as agreed upon before paying more for additional work. Frank will meet with the District MLO subcommittee tomorrow concerning the approval of the 3B funding.
- X. Regional Report – (6:28pm) Nancy Box, Monte Lange, Karen Tankersley, Kathy Sullivan-Orton, Brandon Dahl and Heather Kelly presented in depth on the offerings of Imagine Schools corporate, to include educational, financial, and other overhead type needs. Natasha noted that the board is always open to recommendations of support that is available through Imagine.
- XI. Accountability Committee Report – (8:00pm) Frank noted that the accountability committee has met twice during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. We have a community member on our SAC, which is often unusual. We are in the

process of adopting By Laws for the SAC. Each time the SAC meets we are sharing our Trend Report. It is important to note that the SAC was largely responsible for suggesting the additional sidewalk which improved safety and the carpool process as a whole. Lisa Baker has stepped up as President of the SAC and is working to drive the meetings. In addition David Rex has been a long term member that has supported the school in this area, he is also on the District Accountability Committee in support of our school. Nancy reminded the board that the SAC law was originally created to support traditional schools within a district. There are some areas that do not apply to a charter environment. However, the SAC is a legal requirement.

XII. Discussion Items

- A. Student Fees (8:16pm) – The board would like to inquire on fees at other local schools to see how they compare to our current fees
- B. Strategic Plan Work Session (8:28pm) – Currently scheduled for next Monday from 3-6pm
- C. FY17 Audit (8:29pm) – It was discussed that the audit was already submitted to the district prior to be submitted to the board. Monte noted that it is important to have the audit presented at a board meeting but there was no requirement for formal approval from the board once the audit is complete.

XIII. Vote to Adjourn to Executive Session – (8:36pm) Mike Phillipich made a motion to adjourn to executive session, Markus Bahnemann seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0

**Executive Session – 8:36pm**

Personnel matters (individual employees or groups of employees but not Board members; this provision also does not apply to discussions of personnel policies not personal to particular employees), CRS 24-6-402(4)(f)(I & II); - Began discussion at 8:40pm, ended at 9pm. Resumed discussion at 9:32pm and ended at 10:40pm

Negotiation strategy and instructing negotiators, i.e., contract negotiations, CRS 24-6-402(4)(e) – Began discussion at 9:00pm, ended at 9:31pm.

XIV. Adjourn from Executive Session – (10:40pm)

**Regular Meeting – 10:40pm**

XV. Action Items – (10:41pm)

- a. Principal Evaluation – (10:41pm) Michael Phillipich moved to accept the principal evaluation as discussed in executive session. Natasha Dempsey seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0
- b. Board member resignation – (10:43pm) Chris Dempsey read Mike Riggs' letter of resignation. Michael Phillipich motioned to accept the resignation, Markus Bahnemann seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

XVI. Board Member Communication – (10:43pm) Chris Dempsey reminded the board of the ground water mitigation meeting at 10:00am on December 5<sup>th</sup> at the school and the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting with D49.

XVII. Adjournment – (10:49pm) Chris Dempsey adjourned the meeting.

**PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS:**

*Board meetings are generally a time for the Board to hear from the Principal, other senior administration representatives, and those who are scheduled to make presentations on selected topics. Colorado law prohibits the Board from discussing public business other than during public meetings or executive sessions (see below). Therefore, these public sessions are working sessions of the Board that are intended to provide interaction between Board members and administration in an effort to reach decisions on a wide variety of issues. With rare exception, these meetings are not the best place for initial discussion to take place. New initiatives or proposals should typically be discussed first with administration and a formal proposal prepared for presentation at a time when the item can be scheduled on the agenda. Nevertheless, there are times when the Board is discussing a proposal that certain individuals attending the meeting can provide valuable insight, expertise and perspective to assist the Board in making wise and well-informed decisions. Generally, those involved in bringing forth an idea, and those most active in the process of researching and presenting a proposal, will be the ones most likely to be called upon for input during the Board's discussion. In addition, senior administration officials and representatives*

*from other active task forces will be relied upon for their perspective concerning a particular proposal and the impact it will have on various constituencies.*

**OPEN FORUM/COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

*During each meeting, the Board sets aside a period of time when anyone who wishes to do so may make a brief statement or mini-presentation to the Board on a non-agenda item. The Board will take these comments and suggestions under consideration, but will typically not have adequate time in the schedule or enough information to be able to make a decision or respond during the meeting. The Board may choose to refer such items to the administration for research and the possible future preparation of a recommended course of action to be considered at a later meeting. Open meeting forum is not a time to discuss students, staff, or parents by name.*

**OTHER VENUES FOR IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS:**

*New ideas and suggestions are often best handled by contacting the administration. In addition, there are a number of other venues where interested individuals are encouraged to bring forth ideas and suggestions. These include, but are not limited to, Student Character Council; Parents Teachers Organizations (PTOs), Town Hall Meetings, Principal's Coffees, regularly scheduled parent meetings, and various Task Forces. Proposals which are brought forth through groups such as these, in close cooperation with the administration, are typically organized in a manner that make them easier for the Board to properly consider them and make well-informed decisions.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:**

*While the law requires that most Board meetings be open to the public, the Board may meet in a private, "executive" session to consider the following types of matters: (i) purchase or sale of real estate; (ii) conferences with an attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice; (iii) matters required to be kept confidential by federal or state laws or regulations; (iv) specialized details of security arrangements or investigations; (v) determination of positions relative to contract negotiations; (vi) personnel matters; (vii) consideration of documents protected by the Open Records Act; and (viii) discussion of most individual student matters.*