

**Imagine Classical Academy
Board Minutes
Monday, May 15, 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 - 6:04pm by Mike Riggs
- II. Roll Call - Mike Riggs, Chris Dempsey, Mike Phillipich, Brandon Henry and Markus Bahnemann. Also present Franks Fowler, Scott Hunter, Monte Lange and Nancy Box
- III. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Mike Riggs
- IV. Mission Statement – Read by Chris Dempsey
- V. Approval of Board Meeting Agenda - Chris Dempsey moved to approve as published, Brandon Henry seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- VI. Comments from the public - None (3 min. per)
- VII. Approval of minutes from April 24, 2017 - Chris Dempsey moved to approve as published, Mike Phillipich seconded. Motion passed 4-0, Mike Riggs abstained.
- VIII. Treasurer's/Business Manager's Report on Trend - Mike Phillipich presented that there were two capital construction payments in the last month to make up for a missed one earlier in the year.
- IX. Principal's Report - Frank Fowler presented his report. He explained where the campus target number came from in response to a previous board question. Principal Fowler also presented recent survey results. He discussed preliminary DIBELS and STAR testing results. Principal Fowler also shared data regarding enrollment for next school year.
- X. Regional Report - Nancy Box, Monte Lange - Nancy Box briefed a recent professional development opportunity where Southwest region principals and vice principals met to discuss various methods for further school improvement.
- XI. Discussion Items
 - A. Board member seat - Board discussed Brandon Henry's pending departure and how to fill the future vacancy. Board is awaiting more information on timing to move forward.
 - B. Groundwater - Monte Lange briefed that he contacted the representative of the engineering company who will come to examine the campus this week and work on solutions to the groundwater issue.

XII. Action Items

These are items that are for Board Approval by vote, which may require Board discussion.

- A. Be it resolved by the Governing Board of Imagine Classical Academy of Indigo Ranch that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the FY17-18 Initial Budget - Mike Phillipich moved to accept the budget as presented with the language above, Chris Dempsey seconded. Discussion ensued regarding increasing the staff professional development budget from \$10,000 to \$15,000 as well as increasing the budget item for legal counsel from \$10,000 to \$50,000. Legal counsel increase is due to expected costs associated with upcoming charter renewal. The board also brought up potential future groundwater mitigation costs. Mike Phillipich inquired of Imagine representatives if Imagine or Schoolhouse Finance would contribute to groundwater mitigation costs. Monte Lange answered that Imagine will work with the Board as a partner to resolve the issue. The board discussed \$50,000 as a ballpark figure for groundwater mitigation in the budget, but this is a big unknown without further information. The motion was tabled after discussion. Markus Bahnemann moved to accept the initial budget as presented with the following amended language, "Be it resolved by the Governing Board of Imagine Classical Academy at Indigo Ranch that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the FY17-18 Initial Budget with identified changes for staff development, legal, and groundwater mitigation.", Chris Dempsey seconded. Motion passed 5-0.
- B. Not used.
- C. Annual Report date 7:34 PM Chris Dempsey moved to table the annual report to the August Governing Board Meeting. Brandon Henry seconded. Discussion confirmed that key information will not be available until the August meeting. Motion passed 5-0.
- D. Board Self Evaluation as per 2.3 in the policy manual. 7:37 PM Brandon Henry moved to table the board self evaluation, Chris Dempsey seconded. Brief discussion ensued regarding assistance from the CO league of Charter Schools. Motion passed 5-0.
- E. Office election as per Article III Section 1 of the organization bylaws 7:41 PM Markus Bahnemann moved to hold board officer elections. Brandon Henry seconded. Discussion ensued regarding the potential departure of Brandon Henry and board stability as we move forward to charter renewal with D49. Chris Dempsey made an alternate motion to leave current board officers as is. Brandon Henry seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

XIII. Board member communication - 7:48 PM Chris Dempsey shared that Valerie O'Brien does not have her laptop with her on vacation and will not be able to send the initial budget to D49. Mike Phillipich indicated he will assume responsibility to ensure the Initial Budget is sent to D49. Mike Phillipich reviewed several board tasks from the last meeting. Mike Riggs briefed that he contacted the fingerprint background check system company and has not yet received satisfactory answers regarding information security details.

XIV. Other Business - None

XV. Adjournment – 8:00pm Adjourned by Mike Riggs

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.