



Imagine Classical Academy



Where students are classically trained, culturally literate, and globally prepared.

6464 Peterson Road • Colorado Springs, CO 80923

Monday, February 22, 2016

6:00pm 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 - 6:03pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – lead by Dylan Wiens from local boy scout troop
- III. Mission Statement – read by Markus Bahnemann
- IV. Swearing in of new board member – Chris Dempsey
- V. Roll Call – Chris Dempsey, Markus Bahnemann, Michael Riggs, Brandon Henry, students and staff and parents
- VI. Approval of minutes from Jan. 26, 2016 and Feb. 10, 2016 - approved
- VII. Approval of Board Meeting Agenda – approved
- VIII. Spotlight – Shared Value recognition – awards were presented to forensics students that placed in the competitions (Marissa Ochoa, Samantha Richardson, Gavin McKnight, Cheyenne Gamel, Perry Guidry and Sadie Rafferty). Teachers that were selected by staff for Shared Values were also recognized (Cheryl Dempsey, Gracee Liggett, Sharon St. Charles and Robert Mery). As well as the 4 teachers nominated for teacher of the year to include Cheryl Dempsey, Eddy Lieberman, Christine Devivo and Gracee Liggett.
- IX. Comments from public - none
- X. Treasurer's/Business Manager's Report on Trend – The state has not finalized their numbers as of yet. Expenses for the month were spent on the Dublin parking lot for ice / snow removal. There is ground water drainage and we are working with Monte to figure out a fix. We have spoken to the property owner and are currently speaking with the insurance company and original builders. Michael Riggs to be included in communication regarding this issue. We have a triple net lease and we are responsible for it all unless we can get help from the insurance co. There is standing water on the other side of Dublin as well. Comments from the public regarding water quality with use of the salt and wondering if there is a concern for safety with sink hole development. Will add Parking lot as a discussion item to March board meeting. Purchased an online library called MyOn. Additional cleaning over Christmas break occurred. Per Brandon Henry, questions regarding the budget. Are we operating at a loss? Valerie explained that we will gain some of that back and will be working in the positive. In a 2 year budget it would show a net plus of \$60,000 to \$100,000. Last year we were very conservative and ended up ahead. Tech, facilities and curriculum are sitting at \$100,000 each. We will not have to borrow any money and have plenty of reserves. The overall budget is less than 2% of that. Do we ever get any grants / contributions from Imagine? That is only listed if you need money. Last year

we earned the economic sustainability award and were gifted money. We have many things we paid for with and will reap the benefits this year. We are working on the budget for next year. We were pretty pleased with the snow removal from the city as well as Horace. The snow removal at the fire station was not properly managed for our staff / parents to park and limited us during the big snow storm.

- XI. Principal's Report and Dashboard – Frank Fowler (Sheila Youngblood is a dynamic person in the role of Academic coach) Budget enroll 724 for this year and last year was 704. Thinking 735 for next year. Each class with 28 or more kids per class will have a para. We will look at giving a raise again next year. Percentage of intent to return is at 93%. Student / teacher attendance is at 97% as well. We are getting kids to transfer from other schools in the area and we are the premier pre-k in the area. The housing development in the area will change enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year. Development task force has given our school brochures to the challenger homes / classic homes builders to give to new families in the area. School websites and facebook responses from parents / community are important for marketing. We have a tuition for kindy and we are still full. Frank will be writing something for each monthly newsletter. **(Gracee Liggett to talk about marketing for our school March Meeting)** Per Scott we are looking better for enrollment for next year. Oct count 2015-2016= 773. Behavior referral is at 8 students in January. The state rates the school and these numbers are not good, however we are looking at safety and discipline and we are aggressive with this. We feel that we support the mission with this process. The children that have been suspended have gone through some changes to become better, however a few have not. Students that disrupt their learning environment and make it unsafe will be disciplined and teacher and staff are happy with this process.
- A. PARCC Data Presentation – this is a common core test. Newer curriculum and assessment. Last year we did not have this curriculum but we now have CKLA. Test results from last year for PARCC are even to the district for the most part. We were very high in Math at the end of the year for MS. We need to figure out what is in the assessments and teach to that. These scores were not aligned with CKLA in 2014-2015. We should see better scores for this school year. We had significant tech issues last year and for this year we have improved out technology with our chrome books. We will be able to test more grades at one time. Our students are leaning math a grade level ahead and are testing a grade level below. Our MS students take algebra or geometry and math 8 is too far below the level. Did we get feedback from the students from last year? In terms of adapting to the test, our tech teacher is showing the students how to maneuver through it.
- XII. Regional Report – Nancy Box
Leadership summit took place this month and were able to network with other Imagine folks in Orlando. There are no new initiatives and will put focus back on good lesson plans, continue to focus on instructional leadership and find ways to support each other with solid content and liberal arts. We will look at ways to market and capitalize on one another's successes. We are looking at assessments and moving kids forward. They saw a presentation on brain research. The development from 13-18 yrs and now 13-28 yrs for males has a lot to do with the development of the sheath. The board will attend the League of Charter schools training on Friday 26th.
- XIII. Consent Items
These are items that are for information or for vote, but do not require further discussion by the Board or staff at this time. In the event that new information is available since the publication of the agenda, prior to approval of the consent agenda as presented, the board or staff may remove any consent agenda item(s) to the Discussion Agenda.
- A. Treasurer's Report – completed by Valerie O'Brien
B. Accountability Committee Report - approved
- XIV. Action Items
These are items that are for Board Approval by vote, which may require Board discussion.
- A. 2016-2017 Calendar – Presented by Dan Speer
We will revisit the 2017-2018 Calendar as D49 has issued a 2 year calendar. Testing happens right after spring break and Scott Hunter advocated for a 1 week break do to this learning level loss. We realigned with the district for professional development days and break times. We now can change for 2017-2018 if we chose. State required 170 and 1186 contact hours which is 196 hours over the state requirements. We increased by 4 days for both elementary and MS. We will begin next school year the day after the

district starting Aug. 3rd 2016. The district feels that assessments don't need to happen until after school year begins. We do more of a meet and greet with students / parents. We will look piece of our accreditation. We have had less staff turnover since Frank Fowler has been principal. Staff was surveyed last year in preparation for 2015-2016 year and teachers would rather have an extra week for summer. Conversations will continue through October 2016 to have a decision for 2017-2018. approved as presented

XV. Discussion Items

These are items that are for Board discussion, but do not require Board Approval by vote at this time.

A. Student fees 2016-2017

All student fees will change to \$56.00 including MS. MS will have some additional expenses for latin books, locks and overnight field trip. Should we increase to \$60 to cover more for the CKLA work book? We took the shirt out of the cost and will add back if a new student. **Look at \$65.00 across the board for all students. Will be an Action item March meeting.** Devote MLO funds somewhere other than to CKLA workbooks. Grass Roots East church is part of our income. Look at 3-5 years ahead for fees with 2 year calendar as well.

B. Q & A with new board members / discuss sunshine laws / open meeting laws, etc.

Will consider possible seating of Mike Phillipich at a special meeting or work session. Schedule Nora for training in April and then will elect board members to positions thereafter. General rule 3 or more members together is a posted meeting. Do not email / call each one and discuss same info. We advised Chris to look at co league of charter as well as sunshine law. Read thru the manual and prepare to attend training. Areas of focus are policy and strategy.

C. Election of Board members to take place after training in April.

XVI. Board member communication - Wednesday Mar 2nd is read across the world (Dr. Suess) Looking for people to read to the kids if board members are avail.

XVII. Other Business

XVIII. Adjournment – 848pm

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:

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. 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.

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.