

Independence Classical Academy Governing Board

Board Meeting Minutes

April 17th, 2024 @ 5:00pm – School Cafeteria
2902 S. Jenkins Road Fort Pierce, FL

Meeting called to order at 5:03pm by Vice-Chairman Frade, due to late arrival of Chairman Becton. In attendance were Lance Poole, Jason Revels, & Cathy Townsend. Also in attendance was EDO Sandy Howard, Jeffery Russell, EA Kacey Predix, Brooke Holcomb, Samantha Watson, Rachel Walter, & Sherry Scerbo. Also in attendance were parents: Nicole Osburn & Connie Fernandez. Present via Zoom was ICA attorney Melissa Gross-Arnold, and in person was the ICA fiduciary agent for the bond transaction Building Hope President, Mr. Richard Moreno.

On a MTA by LP and 2nd by JR, the agenda was approved.

On a MTA by JR and a 2nd by LP, the March 2024 meeting minutes as presented, were unanimously approved.

Introduced by Mr. Revels, the Westwood High School FFA competitive team was present to display their parliamentary procedures in anticipation of going to the State competition in June. After a spectacular performance, a few comments were offered by the board, and they were thanked for their time. Chairman Becton arrived as the performance began, and took over to chair the remainder of the meeting.

Public Comment: None

The school progress report was given to the board regarding finance update for bond projections, enrollment, facilities-both current expansion of modulars and future building expansion, employment update, and overview of bond procedures. CT asked about the employment contract, which was later in the agenda, as well as about organizational chart. Mr. Russell updated the board on other employment updates, as well as academic issues, upcoming dates of importance, and the major projects unfolding as they pertain to academics. MTA approve reports by JR and 2nd by LP, all in favor.

The consent agenda was offered for three items, each were pulled for discussion.

Passed unanimously on a MTA by JR and a 2nd by CF, was inclusion of the following language, as requested by the EDO per email from FHSAA, was adopted by the board: *That it is the intention of the governing board to join FHSAA and adopt the Association rules and regulation for the athletic program and meet all minimum requirements of athletic participation for admission to the league.*

The employment contract, as presented after review of the attorney with input from the Arnold Law Firm was discussed on insertion of drug-free workplace language and adding private schools in competition clause, was approved unanimously after a MTA by LP and a 2nd by JR.

The athletic policy, after discussion on head coach requirements and communication matters, was unanimously approved as presented on a MTA by CF and a 2nd by LP.

At length discussion on bonding transaction and requirements was held by EDO Howard with support from Mr. Moreno. Over financial picture, potential interest by investors, as well as the contracts for modulars and construction. Mrs. Townsend expressed concerns over pricing and the incorporation of the 10% change order fees in the construction contract by PJSI and her experience with their pricing and how it relates to GMP. Short discussion held and feedback provided by the attorney, and on a MTA by JR and a 2nd by CF, the following three items were approved unanimously: The bond transaction approving resolution, as presented, as well as the modular lease agreement with Mobile Modular, and the Construction Contract in final form by PJSI. A tentative emergency board meeting was scheduled for April 24th at 3:00pm if needed to complete bond transaction as investors come back. The meeting will be via zoom with the Building Hope fiduciary agent, PNC, and Arnold Law Firm present. The meeting will be noticed and scheduled if needed. The attorney reminded the EDO that a decision needed to be made regarding the deposit on hand with East Mountain Commercial (current lease holder), as the deposit is in the name of ICA yet ICA is not the purchaser of the property. After discussion and a presentation by the attorney as to the options, the board voted unanimously, upon a motion by JR and a 2nd by CF, to place the approximately \$71,000 security deposit to the project fund at closing in case it is needed. If it is not needed, the funds will go toward bond payments in the overall project.

A calendar of events was provided to the board.

With no further comments or concerns by the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51pm. The next meeting is set for May 15th, 2024. SJH

Minutes approved at a regularly scheduled board meeting on _____

Board Secretary:  _____

Date: 5-15-24 _____