

Independence Classical Academy Governing Board

Board Meeting Minutes

February 21st, 2024 @ 5:00pm – School Cafeteria
2902 S. Jenkins Road Fort Pierce, FL

Meeting called to order at 5:01pm by Chairman Becton. In attendance were Clay Becton, Carlos Frade, Jason Revels, & Cathy Townsend. Board Treasurer Lance Poole absent (with prior notice). Also in attendance was EDO Sandy Howard, DOA Jeffery Russell, Kacey Predix, Trisha Thomas, Rachel Walter, Brooke Holcomb, LaChell Downing, & Sherry Scerbo. Also in attendance were parents: Connie Fernandez, Heidi Busbin, Taylor White, Alexis Ploetz, Suzanne Brown, Raymond & Ashley Lowe, Joanna Lopes, Jamie Bishop, Natasha Dooling, Brandee Summerlin Sexton, Joseph Sexton, Joseph Apicella, Lauren Porth Keller, Kimberly DiFrancesco, Richard & Nicole Osburn.

On a MTA by CF and 2nd by CT, the meeting agenda was approved.

Public Comment: None. No speakers.

School progress report was given to the board regarding expansion, bonding, as well as financial updates. Mr. Russell provided an academic update including the focus on PM3 student proficiency and the culture of classroom observations to continue meeting the mission of ICA. Tying Socratic discussions to both areas. Brought to the attention of the board the agreements with IRSC and Flagler College in attempts to focus on teacher recruitment and retention, as well as professional learning. A MTA both reports was made by JR and 2nd by CF, AIF.

Mrs. Townsend made a motion to move the approval of meeting minutes to its own item (#4) outside of the consent agenda, and seconded by JR. AIF. MTS the minutes as presented was made by CT/2nd by JR. AIF.

Consent agenda was passed unanimously on a MTA by JR/2nd by CF, including the updated financials presented to the board for submission to the district, the charter contract (v3) in final form, and the 24/25 academic calendar.

Discussion on expansion into 9th grade was held. Board Chairman CB brought up some changes after a meeting with EDO Howard that the bonding is coming to fruition, the modulars are coming together, and the push to have the 6-12 building completed by 25/26 school year, allowing for the space to grow. This being said, the sacrifice for keeping 9th grade for 24/25 will require not expanding to a 3rd section of 6th, which is the preference of faculty and administrators given unknown history of students. EDO Howard requested a registration commitment be made by parents wanting to keep students at ICA, the volunteerism of these parents to help grow the Ag and social wants of the students, as well as hold strong with us for the year as we work on construction. After discussion by the board on enrollment needs, programming, academics and

athletics-Mr. Becton said he would call for a motion from the floor on the expansion. MTA expansion into HS for 2024/25 was made by CT/2nd by JR and approved unanimously. Mrs. Howard will direct staff to make calls and request registration forms be filled out by deadline for decision to expand and update the board. If no more than 20 register, we will need to discuss and revisit the decision.

Calendar of events was provided to the board.

With no further comments or concerns by the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:02pm. The next meeting is set for March 27th, 2024.

Minutes approved at a regularly scheduled board meeting on _____

Board Secretary:  _____

Date: _____