

Ivy Hawn Board Meeting
April 4th 2024
MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Dr. Gregory LeFils, Rob Bitler, Sarah Brow Corrigan, Carmen Hall, Rob Wyatt, Lacey Lassiter, Joey Maxwell, Danielle Suhr

Meeting was called to order by Dr. Gregory LeFils at 6:00 PM

Public Comment

Members of the public were given two minutes each to make comments to the board. There was one public comment.

Approve Prior Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes from February 2024 meeting – Rob Bitler motioned
- Motion Seconded – Lacey Lassiter seconded
- Motion passed unanimous

Board Secretary Report

There were 2 emails sent to the board this month. Both emails were responded to by the Board Chair.

Finance Report

Mr. Bitler reviewed the emergency funding decision that was made last month regarding the AC unit. The board discussed a policy amendment to include emergency decision-making up to a pre-determined financial amount. Mr. Bitler will work with Ms. Suhr and the school's legal counsel on the policy amendment and review at the next board meeting.

Mr. Bitler reviewed the monthly financial reports. The school finances continue to reflect a positive surplus of funds. Mr. Bitler stated making headway on the 24-25 school year budget and plans to update staff accordingly. The budget will be presented at the next board meeting to be voted on in May.

Principal Update

** Ms. Suhr introduced the Board to Mr. Allerd, the School Choice and Charter Specialist for VCS.

Bus Contract

Ms. Suhr reviewed the bus contract and discussed alternative options that are being explored (i.e., carpooling). Parent input and involvement is necessary on transportation options, Ms. Suhr suggested setting up a public meeting.

Articulation Agreement

Ms. Suhr has discussed with the charter group re. setting preference in the lottery for students coming from other charter programs in VCS (Reading Edge Academy, Samsula Academy, or Burns Science and Technology Charter School). The board discussed the impacts of Ivy Hawn leading by adopting the new agreement.

- Motion to amend the 25/26 admission policy to reflect charter preference to include: “Students currently enrolled and in good standing at Reading Edge Academy, Samsula Academy, or Burns Science and Technology Charter School.”– Rob Bitler motioned
- Motion Seconded – Joey Maxwell seconded
- Motion passed unanimous

Property and Tenant Discussion

Ms. Suhr was presented with a tenant opportunity for the vacant gym space. The board discusses exploring bond cap on rental prices- will need further exploration with the school’s legal counsel.

Principal Evaluation

Principal’s evaluation is due from the board, all board members are to complete the evaluation and email to Dr. Lefils by next week. The board hold discussion and asks Ms. Suhr for clarification on any questions that they have about the noted performance indicators.

Committee Updates

Calendar Committee: there have been multiple parent applications for the committee and seven teacher nominations.

School Counsel Committee By Law Amendment:

- Motion to adopt the amendment as stated
- Motion Seconded – Carmen Hall seconded

* The board held discussion around the by law amendment as it was written.

-Motion to amend the amendment to include: “...The School Counsel shall consist of at least one (1) teacher/employee nominated by their peers, one actively enrolled student at the school appointed by the principal, and the school’s principal or principal’s designee...”- Rob Bitler motioned

- Motion Seconded- Carmen Hall seconded
- Motion passed unanimous

Attendance Appeal

The board heard a parent appeal to an attendance dismissal. The board set guidelines for progress indicators to be demonstrated before the next board meeting, progress with attendance will be reassessed at the May board meeting.

New Business

Rob Bitler proposed “Board Member in School Service” requirement to include (2) days of in-school service required by board members in upcoming school years. The board discussed positives and potential limitations. In-school service will be welcomed and strongly encouraged for Board members moving forward. Alternative engagement opportunities will be offered.

The board continues to receive applications for vacant Board position(s). Interviews and board restructuring will occur at the May meeting.

Sunshine law/reminders are reviewed re. Board communication.

Next Board meeting set for 04/25/2024 at 6:00pm

- Motion to Adjourn – Joey Maxwell motioned
 - Motion seconded – Rob Bitler seconded
 - Motion passed unanimously
- Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 pm