

Board Meeting Minutes

School		Ignite Achievement Academy	
Mission & Vision		<p>VISION</p> <p><i>The Ignite Achievement Academy (IAA) vision is to enhance, engage and elevate the community through unleashing each child's inner genius.</i></p>	<p>MISSION</p> <p><i>The mission of IAA is to provide the community with an accelerated learning institution that propels scholars academically by utilizing a holistic curriculum built upon cultural and community responsiveness, project-based learning and the leading literacy, socio-emotional, and neuroscientific research; thus, providing scholars rich opportunities for enrichment, achievement, and increasing degrees of impact in every field of endeavor.</i></p>
Board Members	<i>3.2 A. The Board is comprised of all essential skill sets and all members are contributing</i>	<p>Roll Call Present: Alicia Ramsey Ramon Morrison Todd Finnell Demetrees Hutchins</p>	<p>Absent: Angela Dabney Michael Williams</p>
		Total Board Members Serving on Board: 6	
School Staff Present		Shy-Quon Ely, Head of School April Hubbard, Business Operations Manager Nadia Miller, Chief Operations Officer NaTanza Bratcher, Assistant Yalanda Graham, AP of Student Services Angela Harris	
Members of the Public/Guests Present			
Date		8-25-2022	
Call to Order		6:02 p.m.	

HeartMath		
Meeting Items		
Voting/Actions Taken		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● June Meeting Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Hutchins made motion, Ramsey 2nd ■ Unanimous Approval ● June General Ledger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Morrison made motion, Finnel 2nd ■ Unanimous Approval ● July General Ledger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Morrison made motion, Finnel 2nd ■ Unanimous Approval
Reporting	<p><i>3.1 A. Relentless focus on student academic outcomes</i></p> <p><i>3.2 B. Evidence of progress monitoring systems in place</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Head of School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General Updates ● Dashboard - No data to report out as of yet ● ADM/Enrollment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approximately 70 scholars enrolled and attending. There are more scholars enrolled in the student database. The team is currently working to reconcile numbers and reach out to the families of no-show students. The ADM Count day is September 16, 2022. ○ The school is still working to enroll new scholars. The Community Outreach team has been canvassing the neighborhoods and going door-to-door. A new social media campaign has been launched. Yard signs have been placed around the city on several different occasions as the team has found that the signs are being removed. ○ The Genius School has been providing transportation services for scholars outside of the area. The school has recently purchased a school bus that will take over the routes once everything has been finalized. ● There has been another article printed regarding Ignite Achievement Academy. The information is wrong. It makes inaccurate reference to conflicts of interest that are not accurate. ● Academics testing is almost complete. This will give the school a baseline to see where students are academically. The Assistant Principals will head academic meetings and report back to Mr. Ely. ● Still need a 5/6th grade Math teacher and also a 1st grade teacher. Crossroads has new program to attract and train teachers. Have a forthcoming meeting with Crossroads to discuss further. ● Back to School night was last week. The event was well-attended by families.
Budget/Finance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Checking Account Balance is currently \$143,835.55 decrease of \$133,954.95 since July. ● Savings Account \$800,304.77 increase of \$110.05 since July. ● Escrow Account has balance of \$30,130.00 with no change since July. ● Total bank balance which includes reimbursements and deposits of \$184,750.81 is \$974,270.32. That is a decrease of \$133,844.90.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expecting September tuition payment in the amount of \$39,168.80.
<p>Chief of Staff</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school is financially solvent given the recent funding amendments made by The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). ● IDOE reconciled \$3.4 million when it created The Genius School as a new school, taking away ESSR funding. The rationale is that the ESSR funding Ignite received was to benefit the students of #42, even though it is known that all students who attended Ignite have not remained enrolled at #42. As a new school, The Genius School will not receive any new ESSR funding. ● An agreement between IDOE and The Genius School has been arranged for The Genius School to receive a percentage of legacy funds (reimbursements that were submitted, but not yet paid out) owed to Ignite. The Business Office will complete the necessary paperwork to receive an amount short of \$900,000 which is not reimbursable. Approximately \$754K is the cure for the \$3.4 million of ESSR funding that was withheld. Approximately, \$140,000 is legacy dollars from Title funding. ● The school is also waiting to hear back from IDOE to find out if the school will receive any new school funding from the State. ● The IDOE has decided to pay tuition based on an enrollment count of 80 students which equates to \$39,000 a month, which is unprecedented. ● The Genius School also can't apply for Title funding until December. ● The approved budget was based on the IDOE originally telling the school that the State would not create The Genius School as a new school. Two weeks into the school year, The Genius School found out that the State created a new school instead of granting a name change. ● The budget will be revised to reflect an operating budget of \$300k and \$1.5 million will be held in savings. ● Vendor payroll is around \$45,000 per month and employee payroll is approximately \$65,000 which is much lower than what it has been in the past, although still tight. ● The school doesn't need any new furniture or equipment which is a plus. ● The State is slowly beginning to fix systems and honor the things previously discussed. It appears that IDOE is compartmentalized and there are different conversations taking place amongst different people. ● Even though the State has recognized The Genius School as a new school, The Office of Education Innovation (OEI) says that Ignite Achievement Academy had a name change and is not a new school. The issue has been explained to OEI, but there has been no movement on the issue. A precedent has been set with other schools having name changes such as The Challenge Foundation which is now Avondale Meadows as well as other schools. It appears that The Genius School has been treated differently. ● Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students who are not car riders are transported by bus. There are two routes east and south who are being transported to satellite stops by The Genius School 15-passenger van. ○ A charter service has been contracted to transport the students from the west side which is where a majority of the students live. ○ Originally, there was a plan to contract with Miller transportation and share transportation with GEO High School, but Miller

		<p>Transportation notified The Genius School a week prior to school starting that it wasn't going to be feasible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Genius School has purchased a 65-passenger bus to transport the students. Paperwork has been submitted, however an inspection has to take place before the bus can begin service. ○ The charter service is expensive but has been extended until an alternative plan is in place while waiting for The Genius Bus to start it's route late September.
Building Leader & Compliance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No Report
Committees	<i>3.1 B. Evidence of committees with clear goals</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Executive Committee (tabled) ● Academic Committee (tabled)
Additional Notes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
Chair's Comments		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
Public Comments		Angela Harris "We love working here. We love our children. It has been a great experience working with the staff we have."
Meeting Adjournment		6:42 p.m.