

Board Meeting Minutes

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School		Ignite Achievement Academy	
Mission & Vision		VISION	MISSION
		<i>The Ignite Achievement Academy (IAA) vision is to enhance, engage and elevate the community through unleashing each child's inner genius.</i>	<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>
Board Members	<i>3.2 A. The Board is comprised of all essential skill sets and all members are contributing</i>	Roll Call	Absent:
		Present: Angela Dabney Alicia Ramsey Ramon Morrison Todd Finnell	Demetrees Hutchins Michael Williams
		Total Board Members Serving on Board: 6	
School Staff Present		Shy-Quon Ely, Head of School April Hubbard, Business Operations Manager Mark Cassoday, AP of Instruction Yalanda Graham, AP of Student Services	
Members of the Public/Guests Present			
Date		9-15-2022	
Call to Order		6:10 p.m.	

HeartMath		
Meeting Items		
Voting/Actions Taken		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● August Meeting Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Unanimous Approval ● August General Ledger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The former employee who quit may be trying to file a small claim or other type of suit against the school. There is video footage that contradicts her claims. She has nothing credible to go on. The school’s publicist has been able to communicate this to the reporter who has been involved and she has slowed her pursuit of the story. The reporter will be invited to come in and run a story on The Genius School so that the true narrative of the school and its story of resilience is put out there for the public to see. ■ The site visit is scheduled for November 18, 2022. The administrative team is working to ensure the school is prepared. The school is working on areas where there has been some insufficiencies in the past. ○ Dashboard Overview ○ ADM/Enrollment has hit 75 students. A family of 4 students recently enrolled. ADM count is lower than projected and ramifications are expected. Attorney Curlin is currently in talks with IDOE. Mrs. Dabney, Ms. Miller and Mr. Ely have a meeting with Patrick McAlister from the Mayor's Office early next week. Expecting legacy funding to be released in December. However, between now and then the enrollment marketing campaign is crucial. ○ Fundraising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Board will begin to look at potential sources for donors starting with smaller companies. The Urban League is a potential source. Phase II of funding will be open for applications soon. Mr. Morrison has a contact for pro bono grant writing services who the Board can potentially engage. ○ Hired a new 5th/6th grade teacher starting soon. Mr. Cassoday and Mr. Ely will assist with Math. The school has been in conversation with Crossroads, to possibly hire a paraprofessional who can enter the next cohort of the Crossroads training program and specialize in Math.

Budget/Finance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Checking Account Balance is currently \$98,865.7 a decrease of \$44,969.83 since August. ● Savings Account balance is \$700,474.70 a decrease of \$99,830.70. ● Escrow Account still has a balance of \$30,130.00 with no change since July. ● Total bank balance is \$829,470.42 which is a decrease of \$144,799.90 since August. ● Revenues for August are \$76,032. Expenses are \$296,647 which leaves a net loss of \$220,615 for August. ● Deposits received for August are \$61,242.48. Expecting October tuition payment within the coming weeks in the amount of \$39,168.80. ● Transfer of \$100,000 from savings was made to help cover expenses. ● One of the largest expenses has been a one-time payment for the purchase of the school bus.
Chief of Staff		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Covered in Head of School Report
Building Leader & Compliance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fall NWEA Benchmark assessment was administered to all students from Kindergarten through 6th grade for both ELA and Math. For grades 3-6, based on projections 20% will pass the Reading portion of ILEARN which is up from 6% last year; 15% are projected to pass Math which is a 4% increase from last year. These are baseline projections without any interventions, so these numbers are expected to grow as additional support is put in place. ● Identified 11 Students of Need (SONS). These students are either proficient or close to proficiency which is needed to hit projections. These students are in the green and their performance will help the school meet the percentile level needed. One of the goals set by OEI is that 8.9% pass both the ELA and Math sections of ILEARN. If all SONS pass, the school will have a proficiency rate of 33%. ● There are 14 students who have been identified for potential reclassification and re-assignment to the previous grade level. This is based on current year and previous years assessments. The team is currently taking a deeper look at the data to see what can be done to get them additional support. The decision is ultimately left up to the families once they receive all supporting information. It is important to have these conversations with families so that they understand the impact that COVID has had on their students. 2nd and 3rd grade are of greatest concern. Those students seem to have suffered the most during COVID. ● The Academic Team is also working on revamping the Master Schedule to incorporate Genius Groups so that in addition to grade-level whole group instruction, scholars are able to work in small groups with peers who are on the same proficiency level. The Team is hoping to start Genius Groups at the start of the 2nd Quarter. ● Student Services/Special Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently have 6 students designated as Special Education and have IEPs. ○ There are 4 students who have begun the evaluation process and gone through pre-screening for Speech. The Speech Therapist will come in to further evaluate to assess whether or not the students

		<p>actually need Speech Therapy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are currently 7 students classified as English Language Learners (ELL). Most of them are Spanish-speaking. There is one who may possibly speak French. ○ 2 move-in conferences are scheduled; one for this week and one for next week. ○ SpedActs and KidsCount have been contracted to assist the Student Services Department with servicing special needs students. ○ Teachers are currently being trained on Second Steps, a social-emotional learning program. The program raises awareness and helps students with anger management and conflict resolution. The program will be rolled out for students next week. ○ Mrs. Graham is in the process of obtaining a license in Special Education.
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"> ● School-wide tutoring will begin next month once transportation has been set up. The program is being facilitated by outside contractors. Students will receive services twice per week.
Chair's Comments		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Board needs to have an extended meeting to further the strategic plan and discuss expanding the Board, a succession plan, fundraising and marketing. ● Tuesday, November 1, 2022 the Board will meet from 6:00 - 8:30 pm
Public Comments		
Meeting Adjournment		