

Board Meeting Minutes

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School		Ignite Achievement Academy	
Mission & Vision		<p><i>VISION</i></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><i>MISSION</i></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	<p><i>3.2 A. The Board is comprised of all essential skill sets and all members are contributing</i></p>	<p>Roll Call Present: Angela Dabney Alicia Ramsey Ramon Morrison Todd Finnell (virtual via Teams)</p>	<p>Absent: Michael Williams</p>
		<p>Total Board Members Serving on Board: 5</p>	
School Staff Present		<p>Shy-Quon Ely, Head of School Nadia Miller, Chief of Operations NaTanza Bratcher, Director of School Compliance Mark Cassoday, Assistant Principal of Instruction Yalanda Graham, Assistant Principal of Student Services April Hubbard, Business Operations Manager</p>	
Members of the Public/Guests Present			
Date		12-15-2022	
Call to Order		6:13 p.m.	

HeartMath		
Meeting Items		
Voting/Actions Taken		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● November Meeting Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote ○ Morrison made motion to approve; Ramsey 2nd ○ Morrison - Aye ○ Ramsey - Aye ○ Dabney - Aye ○ Finnell - Aye ● November General Ledger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote ○ Morrison made motion to approve; Ramsey 2nd ○ Morrison - Aye ○ Ramsey - Aye ○ Dabney - Aye ○ Finnell - Aye
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"> ■ Enrollment is up 4% with 77 students currently enrolled. Attendance is at 91%. ■ The OEI Site Evaluation is completed. Feedback from our families was overwhelmingly positive during the debriefing session with the evaluator. The families spoke highly of the school and its positive approach to holistic education. ■ Mr. Ely's head of school updates were presented at the prior meeting, which was just 1-week before on December 7, 2022.
Budget/Finance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school is in sound financial territory, with additional income expected once the student count has been updated. ● Current Checking Account Balance is \$113,132.48 which is a decrease of \$39,051.69 since October. ● Money Market Savings Account has a balance of \$440,470.81, an increase of \$309.37. ● The Escrow Account has a balance of \$30,130 with no change. ● Total banking balance is \$583,733.29 a decrease of \$38,742.22 since October. ● The school received approval for the ESSR III Grant and reimbursements have been processed throughout the month. The grant approval has been helpful. ● Tuition payments are \$17,979 per month until the true up is complete. The payments should increase to approximately \$44,000 per month once the true up ends.
Chief of Staff		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2021-2022 Financial Audit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The audit with Donovan CPAs has begun. More than halfway

finished with uploading the requested documents. The last half of the audit will be with CIESC regarding grant funding.

- The Business Office is managing efforts to ensure school demands are well-served, while supporting efforts of the audit team.
- Notified the audit team that the school will be closed for winter break. Audit activities will resume in January.
- Core Question 3 (Board Governance and Leadership Framework)
 - The findings appear to be from last school year pertaining to Ignite Achievement Academy.
 - The Indicators Highlighted are as follows
 - Does the Board practice strong governance oversight - Rating received "Approaching Standard"
 - Is the school's Board active, knowledgeable, diverse, and does it act toward a strategic vision - Rating received "Approaching Standard"
 - Does the school satisfactorily comply with all its organizational structure and governance obligations - Rating received "Approaching Standard"
 - Is the School Leader strong in their execution of the strategic plan for the school - Rating received "Does Not Meet Standard"
 - OEI asked for a response by December 14 if there were any additional questions and changes. The following highlights were included in the narrative of the report and are deemed inaccurate by the school.
 - During the majority of the last Board meetings of the 2021-2022 school year the discussion only consisted of finding a new facility. The records show otherwise.
 - The operation of the school was discussed during these meetings, but not academics. The records show otherwise.
 - There was a day during the school year when the school was closed down and operated virtually. The only time the school was closed was when it was sanctioned by the Health Department.
 - Leadership transition was also mentioned. There was no transition in Leadership last school year.
 - There are major discrepancies in the report that the school is addressing with the hope that the inaccuracies will be resolved prior to the report being published.
 - It is noted that the support of OEI is desired, but it has been over a year since OEI has been represented at a board meeting. This raises the question of the validity of the narrative of the report. During the school site visit Aerionna Martin (OEI) did apologize for not making it to any meetings and stated that she would be at the next meeting.
 - Mr. Ely responded to OEI on December 8 and is currently awaiting a response from OEI regarding the Core 3 report. The Board will respond to the report as a whole.

<p>Building Leader & Compliance</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Special Education & ELL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sp. Ed. NWEA Growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 3 of the 7 scholars with an IEP surpassed their ELA goal. There is one scholar whose score dropped and also a scholar who did not take the initial assessment because of late enrollment. ■ For Math, 4 out of 7 scholars surpassed their growth goal and 2 scholars did not pass and are scheduled to re-test. There is 1 new scholar who currently does not have any data. ■ For English, there was 1 scholar who dropped 3 points, 4 out of 5 who had some growth, and 1 scholar who actually doubled their benchmark score. ○ ELL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ There is one English Language Learner who is a Level 5 and currently does not receive ELL services, but is being monitored. ○ There are currently 7 of the 77 scholars enrolled who have an IEP which puts the school average at 9.09%. Four additional scholars are going through the evaluation process and 3 scholars are being re-evaluated beginning in March 2023. Considering the 4 additional scholars, potentially the rate of scholars with IEPs will increase to 14% which is still close to the national average. ● Academics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The school is finishing up NWEA Benchmark assessments and data will be available in January. ○ Thirty-six scholars have met their winter math goal. Of those 36 scholars, 24 of them have met their yearly growth goal showing 1-year's growth mid year. ○ In Reading, 30 scholars met their winter goal and 20 of those scholars met their yearly goal. ○ ILEARN projections will be presented in January. ○ The Genius Groups are going well and have been attributed to the growth achieved. More context will be provided during the January meeting. ○ Kindergarten has shown unprecedented growth on NWEA assessments. The 4 and 5 year-old group of students grew 34 points in Reading and 42 points in Math. The national average for growth from fall to winter is 10 points and 18 points for the period between winter to spring. It is the goal of the school to monitor the growth for this particular cohort of scholars over the years. ○ Rigor will be covered in January and has been addressed school-wide. It was one of the items discussed during the site visit debriefing. All departments have been tasked with defining rigor for their respective areas and rigor will be closely monitored in the classrooms.
<p>Committees</p>	<p><i>3.1 B. Evidence of committees with clear goals</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Executive Committee (tabled) ● Academic Committee (tabled)

<p>Other Business</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Authorizer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beginning January 2023 the school will begin to engage new charter school authorizers. Mr. Ely will provide more detail regarding the current contract and the protocols for transitioning. There's a consensus amongst the Board to support the school's decision to pursue a new authorizer. ● Board Recruitment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Board is focusing on recruitment. Would like to onboard at least one new member prior to January's meeting. There are a few candidates who are interested in applying and have begun the process. The Board is in search of candidates from diverse backgrounds who will be of value to the organization. ● Revised 22-23 Meeting Schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The school will decide whether or not to forego the March meeting and will follow up with the Board. ● Operation Light <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The project is still alive and the school is continuing its work with IFF-Indianapolis along with community partners such as Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. Meticulus Design + Architecture has been named a potential candidate for providing architectural services for the project. Mr. Ely will follow up with more information and the protocols for a possible conflict of interest with Board Member Morrison and his affiliation with Meticulus. ● USDOE Complaint <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are no new developments at this time. The school will follow up with the Board once an update has been provided.
<p>Chair's Comments</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●
<p>Public Comments</p>		
<p>Meeting Adjournment</p>		<p>7:19 p.m. Dabney made motion; Morrison 2nd</p>