

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	<p><i>3.2 A. The Board is comprised of all essential skill sets and all members are contributing</i></p>	<p>Roll Call</p> <p>Present: Kellee Weston Michael Williams Todd Finnell Angela Dabney Alicia Ramsey Ramon Morrison Franklin Bennett</p>	Absent:
		Total Board Members Serving on Board: 7	
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 April Hubbard, Business Operations Manager</p>	
Members of the Public/Guests Present			

Date		2-23-2023
Call to Order		6:13 p.m.
HeartMath		
Meeting Items		
Voting/Actions Taken		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● January Meeting Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote ○ Unanimous Approval ● January General Ledger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote ○ 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"> ■ Great things have been happening at The Genius School since the school’s transition from Ignite Achievement Academy to the small and intimate operation it is today. The school is poised and in a prime position to make its mark at the leading edge of education. School leaders endured and rose above political battles throughout the course of attempting to turn around a failing IPS school. “The phoenix has risen from the ashes.” The school’s model is extremely innovative with people serving who are brilliant geniuses and passionate about the work that they are doing. The families and students are engaged, responsive, and very appreciative of the school’s efforts. ■ TGS has reconstructed its Board of dedicated members, adding new members, honing in on fundraising, and accumulating sustainable resources. ○ Dashboard Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ TGS had a 31% increase since January with current enrollment at 108. The attendance rate is at 90%, a 3% increase since January.
Budget/Finance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Checking Account Balance: \$54,939.78 decrease of \$26,987.82 since January ● Savings Account Balance: \$239,479.26 decrease of \$111,194.33 ● Escrow Account Balance: \$30,130 ● Total Bank Balance: \$324,546.04 decrease of \$138,182.15 since January ● Reimbursements & Deposits received and included in the total bank balance is \$150,774.35. ● Expected reimbursements totaling \$74,190.08
Chief of Staff		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TGS worked with an outside CPA firm out of Ohio to apply for ERC Credit which supports employee retention efforts during COVID. TGS qualified for

		<p>over \$1 million in credit. Administrative costs to apply for the credit cost approximately \$45,000. Twenty-five percent was due up front. It was necessary to apply for the credit because approximately \$8.5 million was reconciled when TGS was slated as a new school. The school started the year off with over of \$800,000 which is being utilized to sustain operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Title funding for the current school year has been approved with only 3 months remaining in the school year. The administrative process is not yet complete and funding has not yet been received. TGS was just recently given the allocation guidance. ● The financial audit has concluded with no findings. There were two SBOA findings. One pertained to grants and grant funding. The second finding was regarding payroll and was generated by a system error. The school has since switched payroll vendors from PrimePay to Accupay as an attempt to prevent future errors of this nature.
<p>Building Leader & Compliance</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Academics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Observation Rubric <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ In response to the most recent site evaluation and the need for additional rigor, Mr. Cassoday and Ms. Bratcher created a new rubric to measure cultural accountability. The rubric focuses on attendance submissions, classroom environment, hallway transitions, and parent engagement. Mr. Cassoday has implemented 4 domains that pertain to academics such as classroom culture, behavior management, genius engagement, and instructional execution levels i and II. Next school year the team will focus on one domain per month during Professional Development events from August through November. Teachers will have the opportunity to get familiar with the new rubric. Follow-up will take place as needed during the 2nd semester. This will provide ample time for leadership to work out any kinks in the process. The new rubric has been well-received and teachers are appreciative of the guidance it provides. The forms have been incorporated in TeachBoost which is the platform the school utilizes to track observations. ○ IREAD Prep <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ There are 7 school days until 3rd graders take the IREAD assessment. For the past couple weeks, the scholars' entire morning has consisted of IREAD prep. The practice assessments are in ClearSight, which is the platform utilized for the actual test. When reviewing probable outcomes, there are 7 strong scholars (53.8%) but as the testing date nears, more scholars have been identified as having close probability of passing. The probationary pass rate is 74% which is 10 scholars who will have to pass by the close of the 2nd testing window. The goal is to have as many scholars as possible pass during the first window. For those scholars who don't pass, remediation will take place for the remainder of the school year and they will then retest during the second testing window which is open from May

		<p>until July.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ILEARN Prep <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ There are 26 school days until ILEARN. The SONS scholars are all in tutoring. Transportation is being provided. Parent meetings will be starting soon to go over progress and provide families with resources for additional support at home. An ILEARN Boot Camp is in the works and will start closer to the testing date. ○ Staff Member of the Month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Angela Harris was nominated staff member of the month for February by Mr. Kelly. He says that she is really dependable, has a calm presence and is level-headed and really supportive. ○ G.E.N.I.U.S. of the Month <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Seven scholars are selected each month. This month is Steadfastness and the scholars will be nominated at the end of the month. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● OEI Quarter Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Met with OEI this week to go over data. Mid-year NWEA data was shared out. The focus was on those scholars who made a year’s worth of growth in half a year, and special attention was paid to kindergarten, highlighting those who had grown 30 points. The team also discussed 6th grade scholars who exemplified an overall average of a year's growth in just half a year. Current IREAD and ILEARN projections were also shared. ● Special Education & ELL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WIDA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ WIDA testing was completed on February 17 ahead of the February 24 deadline. There is 1 new EL student that has been added to the roster, bringing the total EL students to 8. ○ Sp. Ed. Updates ○ There are currently 14 scholars receiving special education services; There have been two new parent requests for evaluation. One was denied but granted a 504 and MTSS for 20 days. The other was approved with a 50-day timeline that began on 2/22/23. There are two staff requests for evaluation and three re-evaluations for March on the 3-year cycle consideration.
<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"> ●
<p>Chair’s Comments</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Terri Anderson’s Board application and resume have been reviewed. The Board votes unanimously. ● “This is an amazing team doing a great job. The community meeting they have with the kids is fabulous and wonderful. The kids were so excited and

		wonderful. They were so proud of themselves. There's a lot of good stuff that goes on here. A lot of the skills they are learning will be life saving skills as they grow up and will help them be successful, not just in academics, but in life. We are the Phoenix and this is a really heroic team. There are times when people could have just said I'm done and walked out the door, but they didn't and they are still here. Thank you team!"
Public Comments		
Meeting Adjournment		6:51p.m. Finnell made motion; Morrison 2nd