



Board Meeting

March 21, 2018

2:00 p.m. ET

**Indiana Government Center South
Conference Room B
402 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

Board Members Present:

Joshua Owens (Chair)

Virginia Calvin

Jill Robinson Kramer

Gretchen Gutman

Janet Rummel

Board Members Absent:

DeLyn Beard

Mark GiaQuinta

Staff:

James Betley

Bridgett Abston

Amy Osborne

Nicole Hornyak

Agenda

I. Call to Order/ Board Meeting Minutes Approval

- a. Call to Order
 - i. Vice Chair Jill Kramer called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. ET
 - ii. Vice Chair Kramer added a new business item, public comments, to the agenda.
- b. Approval of Board Minutes (11/30/2017)
 - i. The minutes of November 30 were approved unanimously.

II. Charter School Renewal Application Consideration

a. Excel Center – Kokomo

- i. Statement from ICSB Executive Director
 1. James Betley detailed the new staff recommendation for a 7 year charter renewal.
 2. Mr. Betley then gave background on Excel Center Kokomo's performance over the term of their charter.
- ii. Presentation of proposal by board
 1. Betsy Delgado, Vice President of Excel Center's Mission and Education, and Tom Pengelly, Executive Director of Excel Center – Kokomo introduced themselves and answered board questions surrounding benchmarks for adult high schools, and programs Kokomo has instituted for their students.
- iii. Question and answer period
 1. Vice Chair Kramer opened the floor to any further questions, hearing none Mrs. Kramer transitioned to the board decision.
- iv. Board renewal decision
 1. Board Member Gutman asked for clarification on the length of the renewal charter term.
 - a. Mr. Betley described that a charter agreement length differs across authorizers and the country. He explained the board would still have authority to revoke the charter based on the school's performance regardless of the length of the charter agreement.
 2. Vice Chair Kramer clarified the motion is to accept the staff recommendation of a 7 year renewal.
 - a. The motion did not pass with board members Dr. Calvin, Ms. Rummel and Chair Owens voting yes. Board member Gutman voting no, and Vice Chair Kramer recusing herself.
 - b. Chair Owens stated there needs to be a longer conversation on the 5 year to 7 year charter term change.
 3. Chair Owens moved to renew the Excel Center – Kokomo for 5 years.
 - a. The motion passed with Ms. Rummel seconding and members Dr. Calvin, Ms. Rummel, Ms. Gutman and Chair Owens voting yes. Vice Chair Kramer recused herself.

b. Excel Center – Lafayette

- i. Presentation of staff recommendation (5-7 minutes)

1. Mr. Betley gave an overview of the Excel Center- Lafayette. He included information on new the advisory team and bridge enrollment that the Excel Centers are introducing.
 - ii. Presentation of proposal by board (8-10 minutes)
 1. Betsy Delgado and Danielle White, Executive Director of Excel Center – Lafayette introduced themselves, and Ms. White described the bridge enrollment process to the board.
 - iii. Question and answer period
 1. Ms. Gutman questioned the percentage of special education students at the school. Ms. Delgado clarified that funding for special education students only occurs until the 22nd birthday. Once students pass that age, they qualify under a 504 plan which is reported differently, causing the percentage to change at the school.
 2. Vice Chair Kramer then opened the floor to public questions.
 - a. Christina Frye made a public comment regarding the logistical process of ICSB meetings.
 - b. Ms. Kramer asked for any further comments on the current proposal, hearing none she called for a motion on the staff recommendation.
 - iv. Board renewal decision
 - a. Ms. Rummel motioned to approve the staff recommendation for the 5 year renewal of Excel Center – Lafayette, with Dr. Calvin seconding. The motion passed members Dr. Calvin, Ms. Rummel, Ms. Gutman and Chair Owens voting yes. Vice Chair Kramer recused herself.
- c. Excel Center – Richmond**
- i. Presentation of staff recommendation (5-7 minutes)
 1. Vice Chair Kramer stated that if other members of the public wish to speak to keep the comments appropriate and related to the agenda.
 2. Mr. Betley gave the historical performance of Excel Center –Richmond. He stated Richmond is very similar performance wise to the prior
 - ii. Presentation of proposal by board (8-10 minutes)
 1. Betsy Delgado and Tyler Stewart, Executive Director of Excel Center – Richmond introduced themselves to the board.
 - iii. Question and answer period
 1. Vice Chair Kramer opened the floor for further questions. Hearing none, Ms. Kramer called for a motion on the recommendation.
 - iv. Board renewal decision
 1. Ms. Gutman motioned to approve the staff recommendation for the 5 year renewal of Excel Center – Richmond, with Dr. Calvin seconding. The motion passed members Dr. Calvin, Ms. Rummel, Ms. Gutman and Chair Owens voting yes. Vice Chair Kramer recused herself.
- d. George and Veronica Phalen Leadership Academy**
- i. Presentation of staff recommendation (5-7 minutes)
 1. Mr. Betley described the history of GVPLA under the accountability system, including comparative performance to local Indianapolis public schools. He also addressed the metrics where the school did not meet expectations.
 - ii. Presentation of proposal by board (8-10 minutes)

1. Earl Phalen, Founder of Phalen Leadership Academies, greeted the board and asked if there were any questions.
- iii. Question and answer period
 1. Ms. Rummel had questions regarding the school's accountability results. Ms. Gutman asked multiple questions centered on enrollment, interventions and proficiency. Mr. Phalen answered all questions from the board.
 2. Chair Owens inquired what Mr. Phalen planned for the school over the next charter term that had not already occurred. Mr. Phalen expressed his desire to surpass local and state averages on proficiencies. (50:09)
- iv. Public Comment
 1. Dontonia Batts, Executive Director IPS Community Coalition, gave comments regarding GVPLA on behalf of teachers and parents.
- v. Board renewal decision
 1. Vice Chair Kramer opened the floor to any further comments. Hearing none, Dr. Calvin moved to accept the staff recommendation of a 5 year renewal for George and Veronica Phalen Leadership Academy. The motion passed unanimously with Chair Owens, Dr. Calvin, Ms. Rummel, Vice Chair Kramer, and Ms. Gutman voting yes.
- e. **Nexus Academy**
 - i. Mr. Betley gave background on Nexus Academy. Since Nexus had a new education service provider during the school year, staff recommends that the school resubmits their application through the new application cycle. Their application would go through the same process as a new application, and the school would come before the board at the May board meeting.
 - ii. Members Gutman and Dr. Calvin asked clarifying questions surrounding the timeline of decisions and what that entails for students and staff at the school.
 - iii. Vice Chair Kramer opened the floor to any further questions. Hearing none, she opened the discussion for a motion. Ms. Gutman moved to not renew Nexus now, but allow them to come back to the May board meeting with a presentation to make a determination. The motion passed with Dr. Calvin seconding and Ms. Gutman, Dr. Calvin, Ms. Kramer and Chair Owens voting yes, and Ms. Rummel voting no.

III. Other Board Business

- a. Thurgood Marshall Leadership Academy Conditional Renewal Year Update
 - i. ICSB staff member, Bridgett Abston, gave the board an update on TMLA. She provided details on the school from site visits experiences and data collection. There will be a formal site visit prior to the end of the school year to sit down with TMLA leadership and discuss specific conditions to their renewal.

IV. Staff Updates

- a. Revised Policies and Procedures
 - i. Mr. Betley gave the board a brief update on ICSB policies and procedures that were brought before the board. He provided the redline document of changes for the charter agreement, and stated that the other policies had not been changed since the November meeting when the board voted to table their discussion.

- ii. Ms. Gutman asked questions surrounding the policies including what would constitute a material change that would require a board vote.
 - iii. Vice Chair Kramer opened the floor to further questions. Hearing none, she opened for a motion. Member Rummel moved to approve and adopt the new escrow, insurance and background check policies. Dr. Calvin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously by voice vote.
- b. Spring Board Meeting date
- i. ICSB staff member, Nicole Hornyak, thanked board members for providing availability and proposed May 15th at 2 pm ET as the spring application board meeting.
 - ii. Ms. Hornyak provided information on the November board meeting, and is working with the conference center to reserve a room.

V. Closing Remarks

- a. Chair Owens thanked the staff for their work, and Vice Chair Kramer for running the meeting while he was unavailable.

VI. Adjourn

- a. Member Gutman moved to end the meeting, and Dr. Calvin seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm ET.