



MINUTES

INDIANA CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD

December 19, 2011

Department of Education
James Whitcomb Riley Conference Room
151 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

The meeting of the Indiana Charter School Board convened at 8:31 a.m.

Board members Todd Huston, Virginia Calvin, Lawrence DeMoss, Jamie Garwood, Scott Jenkins, and William Shrewsbury were present. Karega Rausch joined at 8:34 a.m. Staff members Claire Fiddian-Green and Sarah McClamroch were also present, as was Indiana Department of Education staff attorney Emily Richardson.

I. Call to Order/Meeting Minutes Approval

Chair Todd Huston called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. Mr. Jenkins moved for approval of the meeting minutes from the September and October Indiana Charter School Board meetings. Dr. Calvin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Charter Applicant Q&A

Mr. Huston welcomed applicants to offer a statement to the Board, and provided the Board an opportunity to ask the applicants questions.

A. Fort Wayne Urban League

- i. Ms. Garwood recused herself from the proceedings and exited the room at 8:35 a.m.
- ii. The Board asked the applicant group to discuss the plan for attracting students, governance of the school, the relationship with the ESP, American Quality Schools, the selection of the school leader, and the feedback collected during the Thurgood Marshall Leadership Academy public hearing.
- iii. Ms. Garwood returned to the room at 8:50 a.m.

B. STEAM Academy of Hammond, Inc.

- i. The Board asked the applicant group to discuss the academic track record of the ESP, Mosaica Education, including the reasons behind the Gary, Indiana, based Charter School of the Dunes Board's decision to terminate its contract with Mosaica. The Board also asked the applicant group to discuss the proposed governance of the school and oversight of the ESP.

C. Parent Advocates for Gifted Education, Inc.

- i. The Board asked the applicant to discuss the financial plan, proposed governance structure, and sustainability of the school.

D. BASIS School, Inc.

- i. The Board asked the applicant to discuss the plan to ready incoming eighth graders for the BASIS high school curriculum, plans surrounding creation of the local Board and outreach, fidelity of the BASIS model when replicating, and the criteria and qualifications of the Indianapolis school leader.
- ii. The meeting recessed from 9:30 to 9:36 a.m.

E. Carpe Diem Collegiate High School

- i. The Board asked the applicant to discuss the rationale for replicating in Indianapolis, budget assumptions, and the metrics for evaluating success in the Carpe Diem model.

F. Goodwill Education Initiatives

- i. The Board asked the applicant group to discuss current success at existing Excel Center schools in Indianapolis, the applicant group's capacity to replicate in Anderson, metrics by which academic proficiency will be determined, the leadership pipeline, and the applicant group's relationship with the district.

G. Indiana Charter Education Foundation

- i. The Board asked the applicant group to discuss the projected enrollment figures of the two schools, making gains with sixth graders, and the capacity of the ESP to operate two new schools in addition to overseeing its school turnaround work in Indiana, and the proposed governance structure.

III. Break

The meeting recessed from 10:20 a.m. to 10:26 a.m.

IV. Charter School Application Decisions

Mr. Huston noted for the record that one of the Fall 2011 charter school applicants, Friends of Canaan, Inc., withdrew its application from the Indiana Charter School Board's consideration.

A. Fort Wayne Urban League

- i. Ms. Garwood recused herself from the proceedings and exited the room at 10:26 a.m.
- ii. Ms. Fiddian-Green provided information on a recommendation to approve the Fort Wayne Urban League application for Thurgood Marshall Leadership Academy. The school is scheduled to open in 2012.
- iii. Dr. Calvin moved for approval. Mr. Shrewsberry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- iv. Ms. Garwood returned to the room at 10:45 a.m.

B. STEAM Academy of Hammond, Inc.

- i. Ms. Fiddian-Green provided information on a recommendation to decline the STEAM Academy of Hammond application for STEAM Academy of Hammond.
- ii. Dr. Calvin moved for approval. Mr. Rausch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Parent Advocates for Gifted Education, Inc.

- i. Ms. Fiddian-Green provided information on a recommendation to decline the Parent Advocates for Gifted Education application for Central Indiana Academy.
- ii. Dr. Calvin moved for approval. Mr. Rausch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. BASIS School, Inc.

- i. Ms. Fiddian-Green provided information on a recommendation to approve the BASIS School, Inc. application for BASIS Indianapolis. The school is scheduled to open in 2013.
- ii. Dr. Calvin moved for approval. Mr. Rausch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Carpe Diem

- i. Ms. Fiddian-Green provided information on a recommendation to approve the Carpe Diem application for six Indiana charter schools, with the first school scheduled to open in 2012. Approval for schools 2-6 will be automatic, pending the success of each Indiana charter school under the terms of the Accountability Plan.
- ii. Mr. Shrewsberry moved for approval. Dr. Calvin seconded the motion. Ms. Garwood opposed the motion. The motion passed 6 to 1.

F. Goodwill Education Initiatives

- i. Ms. Fiddian-Green provided information on a recommendation to approve the Goodwill Education Initiatives application for the Anderson Excel Center. The school is scheduled to open in 2012.
- ii. Dr. Calvin moved for approval. Mr. Rausch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Indiana Charter Education Foundation

- i. Ms. Fiddian-Green provided information on a recommendation to approve the Indiana Charter Education Foundation applications for two charter schools: East and South Indianapolis Charter Academies. Both schools are scheduled to open in 2012.
- ii. Dr. Calvin moved for approval. Mr. DeMoss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. **Charter School Accountability**

A. Accountability System

- i. Ms. Fiddian-Green provided information on and requested feedback on the accountability system, including the charter agreement and accountability plan.
- ii. The Board engaged in a discussion about the applicability of certain academic indicators for unique charter models, such as the Excel Center model.
- iii. The Board approved the accountability system in its entirety but agreed to meet again in January 2012 to engage in further discussion about the academic indicators prior to finalizing the specific indicators that the Board will utilize to hold charter recipients accountable for performance.
- iv. Mr. Shrewsberry moved for approval. Mr. DeMoss seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.