



Board Members Present

Joshua Owens (Chair)
Virginia Calvin
Jill Robinson Kramer
Janet Rummel
Mark GiaQuinta

Board Members Absent

DeLyn Beard
Gretchen Gutman

Staff

James Betley
Bridgett Abston
Amy Osborne
Nicky Hornyak
Ryan Preston

**November 14, 2018
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Room C
402 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

**2:00 p.m. ET
Board Meeting**

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Agenda

I. Call to Order/ Board Meeting Minutes Approval

- a. Chair Josh Owens called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. ET. He explained there would be a change in the order of agenda items, and the meeting would begin with other board business.
- b. Approval of Board Minutes (05/15/2018)
 - i. Board Member Virginia Calvin called for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 15 meeting. Member Janet Rummel seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with voice vote by board members Jill Kramer, Ms. Rummel, Dr. Calvin and Chair Owens.
- c. Board Member Mark GiaQuinta joined at 2:26 pm ET.
- d. Vice Chair Kramer left at 4:33 pm ET.

II. Other Board Business

- a. Excel Center – Bloomington Activation Request
 - i. Executive Director, James Betley, gave an overview of Excel Center's request to activate a charter for a Bloomington campus. He detailed the history of the Excel Center, and the organization's past performance in opening new locations. He informed the board the staff's recommendation is to approve the charter activation request.
 - ii. Betsy Delgado, Vice President of Goodwill Education and Mission, spoke to the board about enrollment and progress among the other campuses currently open. She updated the board on community partnerships and graduation statistics in Monroe County.
 - iii. Dan Peterson, Vice President of Industry and Governmental Affairs at Cook Medical, spoke to the board about the partnership that has been formed between Cook and Goodwill, and Cook's support of the proposed campus.
 - iv. Chair Owens opened the floor to questions from the board regarding the activation request. Dr. Calvin questioned Mr. Betley about listing items of success and sharing performance with the state. Ms. Delgado answered, stating they are currently compiling a report with data from the Excel centers and will share with the board once that is complete.
 - v. Chair Owens clarified that the current motion is to approve the staff's recommendation conditional on available capacity provided by the legislature in the next budget cycle.
 - vi. Dr. Calvin motioned to approve the staff recommendation, and Ms. Rummel seconded. The motion deadlocked with members Owens, Rummel, and Calvin voting yay, and members Kramer and GiaQuinta abstaining.
- b. Phalen – Charter Activation Request
 - i. Executive Director, James Betley, gave an overview of Phalen's request to use an un-activated charter to transfer IPS school 93 into a charter school run by Phalen. He gave background on the performance of Phalen schools, and the accomplishments of the organization.
 1. Member GiaQuinta cautioned using letter grades for performance or growth proficiencies when comparing data between schools.
 - ii. Earl Phalen came before the board and described the partnership and work that has been done between IPS and Phalen on school 93.

1. Member Rummel asked questions around services that IPS will still provide, when 93 transfers to Phalen.
 - iii. Mr. Phalen answered that IPS will still provide specific services for the school, while keeping student letter grades and funding.
 - iv. Dr. Calvin spoke to Mr. Phalen and commended the students attending the meeting and their focus on academics. Member GiaQuinta made comments about the ELL and Special Education population of the school.
 - v. Principal Nicole Fama, spoke to the board about the recent activities and accomplishments of the school, including increasing parent involvement.
 - vi. The board had discussion around the contract between IPS and Phalen. Members inquired when the contract would be finalized, and what it would entail. Member Rummel questioned if the recommendation could be changed to conditional, based on the approved contract with IPS. Vice-Chair Kramer spoke to the uncertainty of a conditional approval, being dependent on the IPS board decision.
 - vii. Mr. Phalen clarified to the board that Mr. Ferebee had requested Phalen to do this. Mr. Betley discussed with the board different scenarios that could occur.
 - viii. Chair Owens clarified the motion on the table as activating one charter at school 93, conditional on a signed agreement from IPS. Member Calvin moved to accept the motion, with Member Rummel seconding. The motion passed with Chair Owens, Vice Chair Kramer, Dr. Calvin and Ms. Rummel voting yay, and Member GiaQuinta voting nay.
- c. Phalen – Grade Configuration Request
- i. Executive Director, James Betley, gave an overview of Phalen’s request to increase JRPLA to grades 7-12. He spoke about the history of the request, and the closures of local high school options. He explained the staff recommends approval, due to the success seen by students in the program.
 - ii. Chair Owens opened the floor for public comments. Members of the spoke to the board about the history of JRPLA, and the accomplishments that have been made academically, socially and within the community.
 - iii. After discussion around transportation and other high school options available Chair Owens called for a motion. Dr. Calvin motioned to accept the recommendation coming from staff, and Ms. Rummel seconded. The motion passed with Chair Owens, Vice Chair Kramer, Dr. Calvin and Ms. Rummel voting yay, and Member GiaQuinta voting nay.

III. Charter School Application Consideration

a. Indianapolis STEAM Academy

- i. Presentation of staff recommendation
 1. Mr. Betley presented the board with the staff recommendation of declination of the Indianapolis STEAM Academy. He gave an overview of the application process, and the concerns staff had around enrollment projections.
- ii. Presentation of proposal by board
 1. Dr. Yvonne Bullock gave a presentation before the board. She spoke of efforts to pair with IPS as an innovation school, as well as other partnerships she has created since. Dr. Bullock showed the board

- data of surrounding schools in the Indianapolis area, and spoke to the need of the community to have a STEAM school.
- iii. Question and answer period
 1. Chair Owens opened the floor to questions for James or Dr. Bullock.
 - a. Dr. Calvin and Mr. GiaQuinta asked Dr. Bullock questions around site location and curriculum.
 - b. Mr. GiaQuinta questioned Mr. Betley about staff involvement, if approved. Mr. Betley assured that if approved, they would receive the same support as other schools in ICSB portfolio.
 - iv. Board decision
 1. Chair Owens called for a motion regarding the charter application. Dr. Calvin moved to accept staff's recommendation to decline the charter for the Indianapolis STEAM Academy, and Mr. GiaQuinta seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote to decline a charter to the Indianapolis STEAM Academy.

IV. Staff Updates

a. Indianapolis Based Applications

- i. Mr. Betley gave an update to the board on staff discussions regarding Indianapolis-based applications. The update was on developing a more detailed requirement for locations in Marion County, including school heat maps and enrollment figures across the county. Additionally, Mr. Betley spoke to the change in the application cycle for applicants who wish to locate in Indianapolis.
- ii. Some proposed requirements mentioned were; having applicants who wish to open in Indianapolis apply only during the ICSB spring cycle, revising the ICSB application to add an addendum that will ask about due diligence within Indianapolis, and to make any Indianapolis-based charter approval conditional on securing a facility by a specific date.
- iii. Mr. Betley stated that these changes were proposed to make applicants aware of the current climate within the Indianapolis area.
- iv. Mr. GiaQuinta stated that Mr. Betley knows best on what it takes to review applications within the Indianapolis area against the accountability framework. Mr. Betley clarified that there are no material changes to the application itself.

b. Thurgood Marshall Leadership Academy

- i. Mr. Betley gave a brief overview of the history TMLA has with ICSB, including when the charter was activated, the corrective action plans they have been placed on, and the management disagreement currently ongoing.
- ii. Mr. Betley stated that within the past few months there has been an issue with the contract agreement between the board of the school, and the school's management company, AQS. Due to the disagreement, TMLA has requested becoming self-managed. Mr. Betley informed TMLA that doing so would require them to come before the ICSB board for approval.
- iii. Mr. GiaQuinta made comments stating that there is a lot of background information that is also occurring within the area.

- iv. Mr. Betley told the board he had informed the TMLA board chair there may be an emergency special meeting, if Chair Owens determines there needs to be one called to make decision.

V. Closing Remarks

- a. Chair Owens thanked the staff and board for their continued work on applications and processes.

VI. Adjourn

- a. Chair Owens opened a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Rummel seconded, and the motion passed, ending the meeting at 4:49 pm ET.