

Hoosier Academy, Inc.
Special Board Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2020

Upon determining the presence of a quorum, Board President Michelle Study-Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:02P.M. WEDNESDAY, September 30, 2020.

Chairman Study-Campbell read the Board Mission: 1) make sure that our school accomplishes the outcomes it was chartered to produce (i.e. student achievement) and 2) Make sure that nothing illegal, unethical, or imprudent occurs.

Name	Present	Absent	Arrived Late	Departed Early	Electronic Participation
Michelle Study-Campbell	✓				
Gary Meyer	✓				
Maurice Boler	✓				
Jayne Short-DeLeon	✓				

Others in Attendance:

K12 Representatives	HA Staff	Community Members
Dr. Silver Miranda Tolentino Patsy Woods Tracy Thatcher Susan Fries Angie Baker Julia O’Sullivan Christina Ingram	Tori Harris Jessica Cariaso Toni Beriault Andrea Dammier	

B. Guest Introductions

C. Adoption of the September 30, 2020 Special Meeting Agenda:

Ms. Study-Campbell presented the September 30, 2020 agenda. Mr. Meyer motioned to approve the September 30, 2020 agenda. Ms. Short-DeLeon seconded. Roll Call: Michelle Study-Campbell, yes; Gary Meyer, yes; Maurice Bolder, yes; Jayme Short-DeLeon, yes. The motion passed.

D. Oral Communication:

None.

III. Hoosier Academy, Governance and Organization

A. Hoosier Academy K-8 COVID Response Plan Discussion and Update

Dr. Silver walked the board through the COVID Response Plan. The school is looking into getting more desks and the CARES Act funds will cover the cost of the new cleaning that the school is recommending along with the air filtration system. The school obtained three bids from three different cleaning companies and will need the board to approve.

The Hoosier Indy administration, Ms. Tolentino sent a follow up survey to families. The survey was sent out September 23rd and had two days to complete the survey, however the survey is still open to allow for families to respond. Ms. Tolentino updated the survey questions to ask if they prefer that their student continue to learn virtual. 31% want to come back after fall break and only 13% want to remain virtual until the end of the first semester; and 37% want to remain virtual all year.

To foster collaboration in communication, the board wants to be aware of, and involved with, surveys going out to families to avoid any potential miscommunication or confusion (especially in regards to reopening the school).

As far as the board is aware, the Department of Education has not provided any further information for schools regarding waiver beyond December 31, 2020. The biggest concerns from the families are worried about social distance and that the school does not have the physical space, and health issues.

The following list of items have been done to date:

- The following items have completed to date in an effort to reopen the building within 30 days:
 - Building deep cleaned
 - Repaired all HVAC units within the building
 - Repaired windows/screens for school building windows, admin building is scheduled to be completed on October 7th
 - Stocked hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies for classrooms, hallways, and lobby in the required cabinet
 - Placed sneeze guards in lobbies of admin and HAIN building
 - Collected bids, reviewed, and shared recommendation with board for enhanced custodian services
 - Completed all forms and have received approval to begin purchasing and reimbursing for all COVID related expenses via the FEMA and CARES Act grants.
 - Procured and assembled additional carts for lunches and staff mobility
 - Procured and assembled individual classroom instructional supplies
 - Procured masks from state distribution and communicator masks for the hard of hearing population
 - Ordered partitions for tables where social distancing is not possible, some have already arrived.
 - Procured touchless thermometers
 - Procured PPE for staff (face shields, communicator masks, gloves)
 - Ordered lanyards for student masks

- Procured and placed floor decals for students and staff to gauge social distancing
- All classrooms have been rearranged to reflect social distancing of 6 feet.
- Excess furniture has begun being moved to the basement.
- Staff meetings have been utilized to focus on best practices for new teaching strategies and to adjust to socially distant classroom layouts
- Conversations with staff have begun to work on revising processes for lunch, recess, and other common daily occurrences in the building. In addition, conversations with staff have begun to gauge the staff's preference regarding the dates and times preferred to set up classrooms.

The board had asked how long would the desks for some of the classrooms take? Ms. Thatcher shared that they were ordered in August and October 7th was the projected delivery date.

The contracts for the cleaning company proposals along with the school's recommendation. The money for the additional cleaning would be covered through the CARES Act funds.

The following contracts will likely require board approval ERate; Air filtration system; cleaning services; and Whatever it Takes and the board will schedule a special meeting.

The current staffing situation for Hoosier Indy is still down five staff. There are offers extended to a first-grade teacher and hopefully will accept. The school is getting a lot of candidates and interviewing, but many are not the right fit for Hoosier Indy and Insight.

The school administration team put together three different options for how to re-open the Hoosier Indy building.

- The first option is to reopen the building at the start of the second semester to allow for more time to train and onboard staff, increase comfort levels for both staff and families.

Training for staff as well as onboarding of new staff would be scheduled into the PD schedule every day from 3-4pm. A concern of the board is waiting to re-open until second semester but recognize the importance of the need for staff.

- Option two is to reopen with all staff returning to the building after fall break and continue to instruct virtually and begin to bring in the students back at the start of second semester. There would not be a conflict with the mid-year NWEA assessment that starts in November.

The data for Hoosier Indy was strong at the end of the year last year, and the new data is also strong. This would allow for the staff to show and model what school will look like once they came back to the building. The board asked why the second option is not the first, and the data and comments from staff and parents, and lack of staffing is the reason as to why this is not the preferred recommendation from the admin team. The board likes option two because it is allowing for families to see the building before coming back and allows for the staff to get familiar with classroom setup. Whatever the decision, there needs to be collaboration with communication.

- The third option is that all staff would return to the building after fall break while continuing to instruct virtually and be able to set up classrooms. Students would be phased in starting the week of November 2nd starting with 4th grade, by dividing them into two cohorts to meet the social distancing requirement and we can accommodate 8-10 students; ½ day for each cohort to get them acclimated to the new layout. Pending no COVID cases, 3rd grade would be phased in after 4 weeks to allow for two cycles of the 14-day COVID incubation period to allow for testing to be

returned if needed. All remaining grade levels would return to the building at the start of the second semester. The length of time and days in the building would need to be reassessed between now and November pending COVID updates.

The board wants to figure out to get back to some sort of normal recognizing that Hoosier Academy Indy is not charted to be 100% virtual.

Once things have been decided, Mrs. Tolentino and the staff want to start making videos of what the school and day will look like before students come back to help get students familiar with the new norm. Even bringing in students where the family is comfortable to have their student model and be part of the videos that would be sent to families.

Various concerns were expressed during the meeting ranging from academic/school performance, the order of the grades to re-enter the school, and contingency plans if there was to be a positive case. One of the keys to re-opening the school is effective communication with the families and the board. The board recognizes these concerns and will work through items as they arise.

My Meyer motioned for approval of Resolution 2020-6, approval of the continued modified instruction for Hoosier Academy, that all staff are onsite beginning October 20, 2020 with all virtual instruction continuing through December 30, 2020. On site classes will be phased in beginning November 9th, 2020 with the goal of all students in a blended learning environment not later than January 22nd, 2021, unless otherwise directed by the board. Ms. Short-DeLeon seconded. The motion passed, 4-0.

The board will work on circulating dates for a special meeting for some contracts. The school still needs input on the one pager along with the COVID plan.

Being no further business, Mr. Meyer motioned for the meeting to be adjourned at 9:30pm

Next Regular Board meeting is October 27, 2020, Caito Dr. at 6:00pm.

Signatures for Approval of the September 30, 2020 Minutes.

Michelle Study-Campbell, Board President

Gary Meyer, Board Secretary

Date

Date