

American Classical Schools of Idaho (ACSI) Board of Trustees

500 SW 3rd St., Fruitland, Idaho 83619

MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 21, 2025

Scheduled Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Actual Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order** by Board Chair, Mr. Lasnick.
2. **Roll Call of Board** by Secretary, Mr. Bassetti. The following Board members were present: Mrs. Saylor, Mr. Lasnick, Mr. Bassetti and Mr. Dixon, thus establishing a quorum. Other attendees included Dr. Kane, Dr. Francom, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Seely, Mr. Carignan, Mrs. French and Mr. Lambert. Guest(s) included Mrs. Whitaker.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Consent Agenda:**
 - 4.1. Adopt Agenda 5.21.25.
 - 4.2. Adopt Board Meeting Minutes 4.30.25. Mr. Lasnick sought comments or amendments from board members on consent agenda. Hearing none, both items on the consent agenda were adopted.
5. **Public Comment**
 - 5.1. **Open Public Comment:** No public comments were received prior to the board meeting.
6. **Guest Discourse**
 - 6.1. **Riverton Classical Academy Update:** Mr. Seely discussed outreach events, including a recent presentation at the public library. He described a recent article featuring Riverton Classical Academy which resulted in an increase of intent-to-enroll to 428 as a result of the publicity. He indicated a recent zoning commission hearing approval with a review by city council being the next step.
7. **Reports**
 - 7.1. **Finance Oversight Committee:** Mrs. Saylor reviewed balances on all active accounts (bank, CapEd, Bill.com) for ACSI and member schools, noting no irregularities on any accounts. Separately she indicated that Mrs. Bains was starting to work on various grants. Mrs. Saylor noted that all statements and details are available in the [ACSI Board Drive](#).
 - 7.2. **Governance Committee:**
 - 7.3. **ACSI Executive Director Report:** Mr. Lambert described ACSI total enrollment numbers and growth trajectory as well as the critical role grants play in supporting ACSI. He also discussed an emerging group in East Boise with significant charter experience. Mr. Lambert provided an update on fundraising efforts and described an effort underway to better rollup and automate dashboard reporting. He also highlighted upcoming meetings and community engagement sessions.
 - 7.4. **Idaho Novus Classical Academy Principal Report:** Dr. Kane noted a small decline in enrollment at the end of the 2025 school year but still expected the significant waitlist backlog would fill the seats. He noted the recently produced INCA promotional video had over 17,000 views since its release. He discussed recent events, including an extremely successful Spring Gala and a reprographic issue with the recently published INCA yearbook.
 - 7.5. **North Idaho Classical Academy Principal Report:** Dr. Francom discussed facility progress including recent approval by the planning and zoning board to accommodate construction of the school with an

anticipated adoption by city council at the July 13th meeting. Preliminary findings from the phase II site assessment indicated no significant negative environmental impacts to the Old Mill property. Next steps centered on value engineering and conceptual design. Dr. Francom continued outreach efforts with various stakeholders including county commissioner, parks department and emergency and safety officials. The Boulder Creek facility is still being considered as a secondary option.

- 7.6. Valor Classical Academy Principal Report:** Mr. Hunter noted the recent approval of the \$2.3 million grant request from JKAF for the first five years of operation. He indicated that the intent-to-enroll list now topped 1000 students and a recent outreach session had over 40 adults in attendance and significant support from the community of Kuna persisted. Vectra Bank was selected as the senior lender and construction drawings were at 95% completion. Board members then posed questions to Mr. Hunter about next steps in the financing and construction process as well as potential risks.

8. Old Business

8.1.

9. New Business

- 9.1. Adopt RCA as an ACSI board founding effort (Action item):** Mr. Lambert reiterated the new school roadmap and role of the school leader in the context of Riverton Classical Academy, noting that Hillsdale continued to be amenable to this effort. Additionally, BLUUM has been supportive of the effort to start RCA. Mr. Lambert noted Mr. DenHartog's efforts related to the RCA land donation effort and the expected Fall of 2027 opening. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Bassetti to adopt RCA as an ACSI board founding effort. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Saylor and carried with unanimous consent.
- 9.2. Adopt INCA school leader evaluation policy (Action item):** Pursuant to Idaho Code, Mr. Lambert described the necessity of the school leader evaluation policy and the congruency of the evaluation with INCA's mission. He noted that INCA's draft school leader evaluation policy had been reviewed by staff at the state department of education and was ready for board review and signoff. Mr. Lambert noted a similar policy will need to be adopted for each LEA. A motion was then made by Mrs. Saylor to adopt INCA's School Leader Evaluation Policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dixon and carried with unanimous consent.
- 9.3. Adopt INCA Faculty Evaluation Policy (Action item):** Dr. Kane described the proposed faculty evaluation policy for INCA, noting this was the same policy already approved and incorporated into the INCA employee handbook. Board members inquired about the framework used for the evaluation and the training required every five years to conduct the evaluations. Those qualified to conduct reviews under the Danielson framework currently include Dr. Kane and Mr. Sims with other members of the leadership team (Dean of Students, Dean of Academics, etc.) expected to undergo training for the purpose of conducting such reviews in the future. A motion to approve the INCA Faculty Evaluation Policy was made by Mrs. Saylor. The motion is seconded by Mr. Dixon and carried with unanimous consent.
- 9.4. Approve VCA RLF Resolution (Action item):** Mr. DenHartog discussed the revolving loan fund for VCA in order to secure a resolution by the board. He noted the resolution was drafted by Mr. Yorgason and similar to the language used for INCA. The purpose of the resolution was to authorize borrowing from the revolving loan fund and apply and sign off on the application. It was noted that this was the first tranche of subordinated debt in the debt stack. A motion was then made by Mr. Dixon to approve a resolution authorizing VCA to borrow from the revolving loan fund. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Saylor and carried with unanimous consent.
- 9.5. Approve New Board Member Process (Action Item):** Mr. Lasnick reviewed a draft of the new board member onboarding process. Board members discussed the most effective way to take potential board members through the process, including the potential for a mentorship and evaluation period. Discussion topics included achieving representation from each member school, non-voting board

members, a board observer role, an at-large position and other options for involvement. Board members can review and comment on the draft process composed by Mr. Lasnick that is available on the board drive. Following discussion on specific open seats and member school representation, a motion is made by Mrs. Saylor to open three board seats, including one at-large seat that will be open until filled. The motion is seconded by Mr. Dixon and approved with unanimous consent.

9.6. Summer Remunerated Academic Enrichment Activities by Faculty Members (Action Item):

9.6.1. Draft Proposal: "The ACSI Board permits summer-time (i.e. not during the academic school year) remunerated "academic enrichment" activities by faculty members so long as: (1) marketing and outreach efforts do not refer to Hillsdale, ACSI, or ACSI schools, (2) activities do not make use of the K-12 Program Guide or school curricular materials, supplies, or facilities; and (3) school leaders are informed of any proposed remunerated activities in advance." Mr. Lambert describes the basis and parameters of the enrichment activities and answers questions from board members. A motion is then made by Mr. Bassetti to approve summer remunerated academic enrichment activities by faculty members. The motion is seconded by Mr. Dixon and approved with unanimous consent.

9.7. INCA FY26 Budget First Reading: Dr. Kane described the evolution of the budget which he noted had been under development since early January as well as nuances with debt service coverage ratios and fundraising projections built into the budget. Mr. Carnigan provided additional detail related to debt service and noted topics for likely additional discussion at the June meeting.

9.8. ACSI FY26 Budget First Reading: Mrs. French spoke to the iterative process used in development of the ACSI budget, including implications of fundraising and philanthropy on the multi year pro-forma. Mrs. French responded to questions from several board members related to operating expenses and ACSI budget development. Discussion related to fee structure and sustainment of services also took place.

9.9. Review ACSI Tax Return: Mrs. Saylor reviewed the ACSI tax return, noting the short tax return year and also answered questions from board members.

10. Adjournment

10.1. Having completed the agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JB', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John Bassetti, ACSI Secretary