

# American Classical Schools of Idaho (ACSI) Board of Trustees

500 SW 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Fruitland, Idaho 83619

## MEETING MINUTES

Date: Sept 13, 2023

Scheduled Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Actual Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order** by Board Vice-Chair, Mrs. David.
2. **Roll Call of Board** by Secretary, Mr. Bassetti. The following Board members were present: Mrs. Saylor, Mr. Lasnick (arrived at approx. 8pm), Mrs. David and Mr. Bassetti, thus establishing a quorum. Other attendees included Dr. Francom, Dr. Kane, Mr. Ford, Mrs. Young and Mr. Lambert.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Consent Agenda (Action Item)** After finding no objections to the consent agenda, Mrs. David made a motion to adopt items on the consent agenda, which was seconded by Mrs. Saylor and approved by unanimous consent.
  - 4.1. Adopt 9.13.23 board meeting amended agenda.
  - 4.2. Adopt 8.9.23 updated meeting minutes.
5. **Community Comments**
  - 5.1. **Open Community Comments:** No community comments were received prior to board meeting.
6. **New Business**
  - 6.1. **American Classical Schools of Idaho Executive Director Report:** Mr. Lambert highlighted next steps with INCA BCSI Member School agreement and NICA Letter of Intent and noted additional details would be discussed during agenda item 7.2 later in the meeting. Mr. Lambert indicated a response was expected to the updated traffic input study (submitted on July 25<sup>th</sup>) during the upcoming planning and zoning meeting on Oct 10<sup>th</sup>. The board was also informed by IPCSC on August 25<sup>th</sup> that all INCA pre-opening conditions had been met and separately was granted full Member School status on September 8<sup>th</sup> and efforts toward facility construction, marketing and other zero year efforts continued. Another milestone toward NICA's opening will occur with the expected signing of the property sales agreement and submission of NICA's charter school petition tomorrow. A series of presentations have already been given by ACSI to CSGF with a "recommendation to approve" and are expected to culminate in a final presentation to CSGF executives during their upcoming retreat. Mr. Lambert indicated that our "sister network" in Georgia has already undergone this process with CSGF and Hillsdale is aware of ACSI's relationship with CSGF. Mr. Bassetti inquired about future obligations required by CSGF that had the potential to impact curriculum. Both Mr. Lambert and Mr. Ford confirmed the partnership between ACSI and CSGF to largely be "no strings attached" and that accountability to the CSGF would simply require adherence to our own charter. Two recent large donations from Mr. Williams and Mr. Turnbull plus a smaller donation would enable us to perform work already identified in the already approved budget for the second half of the year, subject to ongoing board approval. Outreach continued with groups in Meridian, Kuna, Middletown, Rexburg and Hailey. Site plan for Daybreak subdivision in N. Middleton was presented using standard K-12 facility model and student headcount estimate. Mr. Lambert also noted an event in Kalispell, MT, which would serve to explore the potential for ACS extension into Montana and represents the first public presentation of the ACS model in Montana.
  - 6.2. **Idaho Novus Classical Academy Report:** Dr. Kane reported that INCA enrollment recently exceeded 600 students on the intent-to-enroll with a total of 617, with excellent progress in Emmett, attributing this uptick of 13 students to targeted outreach efforts in Emmett. According to Dr. Kane, most growth has

been concentrated in kindergarten but has been steadily and evenly distributed in other grades. INCA achieved the status of a BCSI Member School and has done so earlier than most schools in the BCSI network. Groundbreaking ceremony is slated for Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at Avimor with approximately 120 attendees expected. Faculty and staff recruitment continued in earnest with continued high quality of applicants expected to grow with Dr. Kane and Maj. Sims participation in several upcoming job fairs at BYU and elsewhere. Dr. Kane also noted receipt of additional grant funding left over from original request in the amount of \$37,271.12 to be used largely for deployment of the tech stack, nutritional program and elsewhere.

- 6.3. North Idaho Classical Academy Report:** Dr. Francom indicated enrollment stood at 461 with several new additions to the intent-to-enroll list added as a result of outreach at both the county fair and farmer's market. Geographic focus remained on Bonners Ferry and Moyie Springs with a number of people coming from the Naples area. Dr. Francom reminded the board of the expected submission to the Idaho State Public Charter School Commission tomorrow. The NICA founding group continued to meet regularly and was hopeful to secure financing soon.
- 6.4. Meridian Founding Group Report:** Mrs. Young indicated that there was a "good cluster" of parents represented in the founding group and that a recent deep dive into intent-to-enroll numbers as well as a shift from 2024 to 2026 opening resulted in an expected enrollment drop. Participation in Meridian Dairy Days event resulted in a massive jump in intent-to-enroll which continued to trend upward. Mrs. Young indicated there was continued exploration into raising funds for marketing and continuing growth in enrollment.

## **7. New Business**

- 7.1. Approve NICA PSA:** Final outline of PSA is reviewed and Mr. Bassetti made a motion to approve and Mrs. Saylor seconds. With all in favor the motion carries.
- 7.2. Approve NICA Hillsdale College Member School LOI:** Mr. Lambert described approval of Hillsdale College Member school as an essential first step for NICA. Mr. Bassetti motion to approve and Mrs. Saylor seconds. With all in favor the motion carries.
- 7.3. Mark Bottles LOI for Property Donation:** Mr. Lambert describes this non-binding Letter of Intent (LOI) requiring acceptance for a property donation in North Middleton with the intent of a 2027 or 2028 start date. Mr. Bassetti made a motion to approve and Mrs. Saylor seconds. With all in favor the motion carries.
- 7.4. Approve Updated INCA Financial Policies and Procedures:** Dr. Kane describes financial policy and procedures, feedback and changes related to feedback as well as processes at TVCA with a proven track record. Mrs. Saylor is asked about her confidence level in these policies and procedures and she is very confident. Discussion also occurs related to credit card controls utilized at TVCA. Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve and Mrs. David seconds. With all in favor the motion carries.
- 7.5. Approve INCA Employee Handbook:** Dr. Kane just stands for questions. Mrs. David inquired about spousal employment. Mr. Bassetti made a motion to approve and Mrs. Saylor seconds. With all in favor the motion carries.
- 7.6. Approve INCA Family Handbook:** Dr. Kane stands for questions. Discussion occurs related to filing of grievances and scenarios around expulsion. Upon conclusion of discussion, Mrs. David made a motion to approve and Mrs. Saylor seconded. With all in favor the motion carries.
- 7.7. Approve INCA PowerSchool Contract:** Dr. Kane describes purchase and terms of contract. Mr. Bassetti made a motion to approve the PowerSchool contract and Mrs. Saylor seconded. With all in favor the motion carries.
- 7.8. INCA Pre-Opening Conditions:** Conditions for and certification by IPCSC was discussed by Dr. Kane and a suggestion of adding pre-approval status to INCA website is suggested.

**7.9. Governance Committee:** Mr. Bassetti discussed formalization of governance committee and steps being taken to develop written guidance.

**8. Adjournment:** Having completed the agenda the meeting is adjourned at 8:32 P.M.

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

**John Bassetti, ACSI Board Secretary**