

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

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

## MEETING MINUTES

Date: Sept 11, 2024

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, Mrs. David, Mr. Dixon and Mr. Bassetti, thus establishing a quorum. Other attendees included Dr. Kane, Dr. Francom, Mr. Hunter, Mrs. French, Mr. Coba, and Mr. Lambert.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Consent Agenda:**

**4.1.** Adopt Agenda 9.11.24.

**4.2.** Adopt Board Meeting Minutes 8.14.24. Mr. Lasnick sought comments or amendments from board members. Hearing none, both items on the consent agenda were adopted.

**5. Public Comment**

**5.1. Open Public Comment:** No public comments received prior to the board meeting.

**6. Guest Discourse**

**7. Reports**

**7.1. Finance Oversight Committee:** Mrs. Saylor provided an update on ACSI finances as well as finances for INCA and NICA. No irregularities were noted for either Bill.com or bank statements for ACSI. Bill.com and bank statements were reviewed for INCA and no irregularities were noted. Several large deposits to Bouma were made on behalf of INCA which combined exceeded \$1.2 million and a large deposit from the state was received for \$1.2 million by INCA. Details and specific balances for all accounts are available in the 11 September Finance Oversight Committee report, available on the google drive. An update from BLUUM was provided and Mrs. Saylor discussed efforts underway in preparation for the Guns and Roses auction to be held on Saturday, October 5th. A change in regular board meeting schedule from the second Wednesday to the to the last Wednesday of each month is deemed necessary for optimal timing of financial reporting from BLUUM. This change will be effective starting with the October 2024 board meeting.

**7.2. Governance Committee:** Mrs. David provided a governance committee update, briefly noting some of the topics covered as well as welcoming newly elected member, Sage Dixon, to the governance committee. Board training at Hillsdale was discussed as well as desire of a cursory evaluation of a new software for board organization to occur under purview of the governance committee.

**7.3. ACSI Executive Director Report:** Mr. Lambert discussed work on ACSI handbook and marketing brochure. He also noted the first staff meeting for ACSI was recently held, signaling the commencement of regular activities. Routine and exploratory outreach events were discussed and status of TVCA conversion into an LLC and move under the ACSI umbrella was discussed.

**7.4. Idaho Novus Classical Academy Principal Report:** Dr. Kane noted completion of the first two weeks of the school year had been completed and that minor adjustments to the 2024-2025 calendar were made. He noted the current priority was filling a handful of lost seats. Cost reconciliation on a handful of items, including costs of water main extension, had recently occurred.

**7.5. North Idaho Classical Academy Principal Report:** Dr. Francom provided an update on intent-to-enroll which

he noted was approaching 600 students. He noted continued efforts toward obtaining water and sewer approval from DEQ and a recent change in engineer from Ruen Yeager to Bart North. Support from multiple stakeholders was sought to help accelerate DEQ approval and steps in preparation for alternate school location(s) were being underway. Effort continued on teacher recruitment, noting close collaboration with TVCA who recently hosted NICA's literacy coordinator for training.

**7.6. Valor Classical Academy Principal Report:** Mr. Hunter spoke about efforts underway in Kuna, noting that the intent-to-enroll had risen to 555 as a result of cleanup of enrollment data and that 299 potential students were within the primary attendance zone. He also noted that the LLC associated with Valor had been approved by the State of Idaho and that founding support of the LLC had been approved by Hillsdale. Factors related to the M3 donation agreement were also discussed.

## 8. Old Business

**8.1. ACSI Handbook review and discussion:** Mr. Lambert opened up discussion on the ACSI handbook, addressing specific questions and comments from board members. School surveys and utilization of survey data for decision-making within schools and comparative data between schools were discussed. The concept of federalism and principal autonomy were discussed as well as some specific minor edits, including addition of a staff nepotism policy.

## 9. New Business

**9.1. Approve additional CapEd account for ACSI (Action item):** Mr. Lambert requested authority to segment donations and operations funds to reduce the likelihood of financial malfeasance as well as streamline the donation process. Mrs. Saylor made a motion to approve an additional CapEd account which was seconded by Mr. Bassetti. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

**9.2. Approve INCA Education of Homeless Children Policy (Action item):** Dr. Kane explained the basis of the homeless children policy as well as practical application and nuances related to federal funds. Following several questions from board members, a motion to approve the Education of Homeless Children Policy was made by Mr. Bassetti and seconded by Mr. Dixon. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

**9.3. Approve INCA Revised Bus Routes (Action item):** Dr. Kane discussed modifications to bus routes deemed necessary after day-to-day experiences following the first weeks of school. Following Dr. Kane's explanation, Mrs. Saylor moved to approve the revised bus routes and Mrs. David seconded the motion. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

**9.4. Approve INCA Revised Academic Calendar (Action item):** Dr. Kane discussed rationale for academic calendar modification, reflecting the delayed start of the school year. Total school days for the 2024-2025 academic calendar are 164 for students and 187 for faculty. A motion was made by Mr. Bassetti to approve the revised INCA calendar for the 2024-2025 academic year which was seconded by Mrs. David. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

**9.5. Approve ESI Contract with NICA (Action item):** Mr. Coba provided an update on the status of NICA, including factors related to DEQ approval of plans related to water and wastewater as well as implications for contractual relationship with builder, ESI. Both Mr. Coba and Dr. Francom addressed questions from board members regarding the relationship, schedule and risks associated with the ESI contract, NICA facility acquisition, and overall project. At the conclusion of discussion, Mr. Bassetti made a motion to approve the ESI contract with NICA which was seconded by Mrs. Saylor and approved with unanimous consent.

**9.6. NICA Real Estate Contract (Action item):** Dr. Francom reviewed rationale for a new contractual relationship with Four Seasons. Factors related to the new relationship were discussed and a motion to approve the NICA real estate contract with Four Seasons was made by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Saylor. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

**9.7. Approve VCA LLC Operating Agreement (Action item):** Mr. Hunter discussed the operating agreement and registration of Valor LLC with the State of Idaho, noting that both were drafted by and/or approved by Atty.

Yorgason. Following brief discussion, Mr. Bassetti made a motion to approve the VCA Operating Agreement which was seconded by Mr. Dixon. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

**9.8. Approve VCA Primary Attendance Zone (Action item):** Mr. Hunter reviewed the proposed primary attendance zone for VCA, using a map as the basis for questions from board members. Following discussion, a motion to approve the primary attendance zone for VCA was made by Mrs. Saylor and Mr. Bassetti seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

**9.9. Discuss Oath of Office:** Mr. Lambert discussed the oath of office and suggested defining a mechanism to administer it to others, administering from leadership downward. He also suggested administration of the oath occur during a celebratory dinner or other occasion. Travel for Mr. Dixon should also be considered and an option for overlap of oath administration with board retreat was a possibility.

**9.10. Discuss ACSI Board Retreat Logistics:** Mr. Lasnick discussed logistics and agreed a full-day and facilitated meeting was viable. A qualified facilitator would not likely be available until 2025 due to likely end-of-year constraints. Specific facilitation options and venues will be identified in the coming weeks.

**9.11. Discuss ACSI Growth Plan:** Mr. Lambert discussed ACSI growth plan, noting the emphasis within the plan of maintaining sustainable quality and performance, as recommended by Hillsdale and BLUUM. Elements of the two-year timeframe were discussed as well as indicators of success and methods of measuring success. Implications of various sources of funding and stakeholder interests are considered and discussed.

## **10. Adjournment**

**10.1. Having completed the agenda, the meeting is adjourned at 9:11 pm.**



John Bassetti, ACSI Secretary