Minutes of Imboden Area Charter School

The regular April Meeting was rescheduled due to illness and held Thursday May 2, 2024, at 6:00 PM, at Imboden Area Charter School, 800 Beech St. Black Rock, Arkansas.

Board members present were Mike McLeod, Scott Rorex, and Blake Clements. Director Matthew Wells was also present.

Vice- President Blake Clements Presiding:

Director Matthew Wells’ report:

* Current enrollment figures have dropped and are currently at 62. This number is concerning and all efforts need to be made to increase enrollment significantly for next year. An advertising campaign will be put in play over the summer.
* Mr. Wells explained that a brief informational presentation would be provided to parents prior to the annual awards and graduation ceremony on May 23, 2024. This informational presentation would be regarded as the Annual Corporation Meeting and would include information on the background of the school, programs offered, and financial topics.
* Mr. Wells presented the proposed calendar for the 2024-25 school year. The year will begin August 19, 2024 and end approximately May 30, 2025. This calendar follows a fairly traditional set up with standard number of days and hours per day. Motion made by Mike McLeod and seconded by Blake Clements to approve the 24-25 school year calendar as presented. Motion passed 3 to 0.
* Mr. Wells presented the board with the proposed budget for Title VIB Special Education funding for the 2024-25 school year. As has always been standard, the school will apply all special education funding to salary and benefits for a special education teacher. Allocations for 24-25 have yet to be released by DESE, but traditionally IACS has always received less funding than necessary to cover the costs of a special education teacher and will likely need to allocate additional funds from the operating budget to fully cover the costs of personnel. Motion made by Mike McLeod and seconded by Scott Rorex to approve the proposed budget for Title VIB. Motion passed 3 to 0.
* Mr. Wells next presented the board with an updated contract for therapy services provided by Connex Therapy of Jonesboro. This is the same company IACS has used for many years to provide speech, physical, and occupational therapy services. The contract presented this year has only been updated with dates. Services and pricing structure will remain the same as it has for several years. It was Mr. Wells’ recommendation to renew this contract and continue supplemental services with Connex. Motion made by Blake Clements and seconded by Mike McLeod to renew this contract. Motion passed 3 to 0.
* Next, Mr. Wells presented the board with the following contracts for renewal for the 24-25 school year. Samantha Vickers, Kindergarten teacher; Natalie Kingery, 1st/2nd grade teacher; Elizabeth Scales, 3rd/4th grade teacher; Megan Carey, 5th/6th grade teacher; Candis Ring, 7th/8th grade teacher; Sandy Wilson, Special Education teacher; Paula Wagner, School Counselor; Lorraine Alderson, Child Nutrition and aide; and Tosha Hardin, aide. Motion made by Mike McLeod and seconded by Blake Clements to renew the aforementioned contracts. Motion passed 3 to 0.
* End of year activities were discussed including the annual awards and graduation ceremony, Lake Charles trip.

Action Agenda:

Motion made by Mike McLeod and seconded by Blake Clements to approve the following:

2024-25 Calendar

2024-25 Special Education Budget

2024-25 Therapy Contract

Contracts for Staff

Motion passed 3 to 0.

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Blake Clements and seconded by Mike McLeod to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed 3 to 0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

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Scott Rorex, Secretary Date