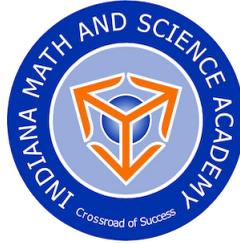


APPROVED



IMSA Governing Board

Minutes

Board Meeting

Re-Opening Board Meeting

Date and Time

Monday August 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Location

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75388193606?pwd=L1g1Z2p2eGpGdEN0amhjUzJMNE9hQT09>

Meeting ID: 753 8819 3606

Passcode: djBt55

School officials, teachers, parents, media and the general public are invited to attend open meetings of the IMSA Board to witness the discussion and decision-making process that affects the IMSA operations.

Directors Present

B. Valentine-Watts (remote), C. Frazier (remote), D. Coats (remote), D. Pierson (remote), J. McFarland (remote), J. Sparks (remote), L. Orcutt (remote), T. Miller (remote)

Directors Absent

M. Gonulalan

Ex-Officio Members Present

J. Brown (remote), K. Smith (remote), M. Arslan (remote), M. Atlihan (remote), O. Secen (remote)

Non Voting Members Present

J. Brown (remote), K. Smith (remote), M. Arslan (remote), M. Atlihan (remote), O. Secen (remote)

Guests Present

Alexandria Bradford (remote), Andrew Collins (remote), Barbara Garrett (remote), Charlene Stephens (remote), Chelsey Lang (remote), Dre' Knox (remote), Erin Leary (remote), Gabrielle Rothchild (remote), Heather Melrose (remote), Ibrahim Topcu (remote), Jennifer Allen (remote), Jennifer Rhinehart (remote), Kathy Stover (remote), Keith Brown (remote), Kim Mills (remote), Leah Bry (remote), Lori Moghadam (remote), Mrs. Ansari (remote), Nick Campbell (remote), Paige Vliestra (remote), Ryan Fisher (remote), Tamara French (remote), Terrance Johnson (remote), Teruko Knight-Gavia (remote), Thomas Harrell (remote), Warren Terrell (remote), Wynsda Watson (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Coats called a meeting of the board of directors of IMSA Governing Board to order on Monday Aug 3, 2020 @ 7:02 PM.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

II. New Business

A. Discuss The Re-Opening of our schools.

D. Coats - We only have one agenda item, you are probably aware of the changes that have taken place.

M. Arslan - Last week we agreed to move the start date to August 17th. Since then there have been major changes with the Marion County Health Department. IPS went virtual until October 1.

We are proposing that we start on August 17th but all virtual and monitor at Labor Day.

D. Coats - Reach out to as many parents to get their feedback, as that is important.

M. Arslan - The Principals have a presentation.

D. Coats - We have many guests with us today and that is nice. If you have a question a comment, please go ahead and ask. Say your name and wait until I acknowledge you. Would anyone like to make a comment? - None At this point Mustafa you presented the changes-

- Start August 17 with eLearning
- Labor Day - Re-evaluate

You also mentioned that the Principals have a presentation.

M. Atlihan - The number of responses 208 for eLearning registration about 36% of enrollment.

H. Melrose - Parents were not comfortable sending their kids, they were taking time off. I thought I would hear more about sending the kids to school.

D. Coats - Thank you for Teaching our kids

M. Atlihan - Shared some concerns. It will be a change to how eLearning was done in the spring, we will have more live sessions. Students will also have their own devices, we have enough for each student.

D. Coats - What did you learn from the responses received, concerned about keeping their kids safe.

M. Atlihan - They needed more assistance with IEP students.

B. Valentine-Watts - How did you react to their questions?

M. Atlihan - We provided a script to those saying the calls. We referred to the re-Opening plan, and also made it available on the website.

D. Coats - How many families have talked to?

M. Atlihan - We don't have that data yet.

D. Coats - Mr. Secen, what were your experiences?

O. Secen - We had about 47% wanting eLearning.

D. Coats - What percentage of students were contacted?

O. Secen - We had responses similar to West. The folks that wanted in person said they trusted us. They also wanted to know how we would social distance.

D. Coats - It does appear that there is a high number of eLearning than expected.

D. Coats - Thank you for all your efforts Principals and Teachers. I think we have enough information.

T. Miller - I am glad we asked the parents, some of the people in attendance today at the meeting are teachers. I am curious about what they are thinking.

D. Coats - Great suggestion, I agree.

W. Watson - North Teacher and parent. I opted for eLearning, we are leaning towards what IPS is doing. If we have them come back after Labor Day they are going to be around others, I think we should do October 1 and then re-evaluate.

J. Allen - West Teacher, Speaking to other teachers, our classrooms are not big enough to social distance. They will not want to wear masks. It will be hard to stay safe.

K. Mills - I agree with Ms. Allen, last year I had 25 kids in my class. My hand kids that have younger siblings, I would prefer the first 9 weeks.

C. Lang - North Teacher, One of the phone calls of an eight and third-grade student, she would prefer eLearning. She is a nurse and works with elderly patients. She was very adamant about the steps we were taking. Temperatures, staff quarantine, bus protocol, and eLearning. Even though I teach science I share her concerns.

D. Coats - We have a very detailed plan, can we share that with staff and parents and assure them as to what we are going to do?

W. Watson - I get multiple notifications, parents are overlooking them.

D. Coats - Were you aware of these?

C. Lang - No

C. Stephens - North Teacher, I am not a parent, I do think about our parents and the pressure there were under, especially in the spring. Having both options, I don't want the kids to be homeless because the parents can't work.

J. Rhinehart - North Lead Teacher, Just listening, our classrooms are not big enough to accommodate distance learning, our conversations are obsolete as soon as we finish them. Can we do it with Fidelity, if someone gets infected we have to re-group, forget everything we talked about? Parents have to make plans. Kids want to come for the social aspect.

D. Coats - What do you suggest?

J. Rhinehart - Because of the spikes, our students, doing eLearning for the semester. I would hate to put someone in danger because we want them back.

L. Bry - North Teacher, parents had lots of concerns, North has done a great job at planning.

K. Brown - I understand the need to get back to school.

J. McFarland - My son goes to North Central and he did not do well in the spring. I had to decide, I had to decide, and was appreciative of Washington Township for putting in place so many things to make it better.

E. Leary - West Teacher, Concerns about the kids and more for my parents, and preparing to not be able to see my parents.

D. Coats - Someone should say this, concerns of the impact of them not going back would be worse. Thank you to everybody. Do any Board Members want to comment?

B. Valentine-Watts - We have listened to the concerns. How are we going to social distance when there is no room? Are there plans in place?

W. Watson - To get them distanced we need to put them in rows, we can not put 14 kids in a room, it is almost impossible.

B. Valentine-Watts - Are there other options?

W. Watson - We have about 700 kids, with 300 online that leaves 400.

O. Secen - It is different with each classroom. I would like to do 6 feet. Marian County Health Department (MCHD) guidelines are 3-6 feet in classrooms and on the bus. If there is a situation you try to resolve it.

T. Miller - Thank you to all the teachers and staff. I have not been very quiet about my concerns about you all. Frontline folks, going back to our families. I am not comfortable putting my vote on our kids. God Bless IPS. I want to come up with the IMSA Solution, we have balances. We can't figure out 3 to 6 feet. I am not being overdramatic, but I have lost 22 people to this virus. IPS notwithstanding, but I am not comfortable sending our people back.

C. Frazier - I echo Toby, you know I have raised these concerns, while the rate for kids was low but Black and Hispanic/Latino make up 75% of those affected. We need to focus on who we are serving and not just in general.

J. Sparks - I am trying to figure out this, it is clear the safest thing we can do is eLearning. We would not be in physically and it being less safe, how do we measure what loss is acceptable. No level of risk is acceptable. We could solve classroom 15 may be the max. Communication is a doable thing, we are talking about little kids that don't know how to take care like adults.

D. Coats - Even with the statistics presented by Principals a minority have chosen to do eLearning.

B. Valentine-Watts - Parents that did not respond as saying that they want in person. Do they really know what the others want?

D. Coats - A couple hundred have responded Percentage would hold after we have called all parents.

W. Watson - Parents that had not signed up, half are wanting are wanting eLearning.

D. Coats - The half want in-person.

J. Rhinehart - Worse for our kids not to come into school, if we do not offer kids will go virtual. Parents want to send kids to school just to get them out of the house. What are we willing to risk?

D. Coats - Thank you, any other comments? It is time for a motion.

M. Arslan - We as leadership are not married to the Labor Day date.

T. Miller - I make a motion to "Open virtually on August 17th through indefinite.

D. Pierson - I second that.

B. Valentine-Watts - Indefinite is a long time, maybe a semester.

L. Orcutt - I have heard about the constant changes.

J. Sparks - What impact would it have?

W. Watson - Indefinite is a long time.

D. Coats - Toby would you be willing to change your motion?

T. Miller - I am willing to adjust but not change. Does someone have a better word for indefinite?

C. Frazier - If we use the indefinite, but use additional language in communication. We could tailor our communication.

J. Sparks - I have trouble with indefinite, but we could change our mind next week.

D. Coats - What if we said eLearning through the 1st quarter and re-evaluate at each Board meeting.

T. Miller - As long as we can have this dialogue with our teachers, putting their comments into our language.

D. Coats - Toby are you amending your motion?

T. Miller - Amending the current motion to read - "Open school on August 17th with virtual learning at least through the 1st quarter, and we will revisit our opening plans at each subsequent Board meeting".

M. Atlihan - Quarter 1 ends on October 9th and the 2nd quarter begins on October 19th.

J. Sparks - Several Board meeting questions, Regularly scheduled meetings may not work, we will meet as needed.

D. Coats - Any other comments? Thank everyone for being part of this meeting. This Board you all very dear to our hearts.

B. Valentine-Watts - I am so grateful for you all, I greatly appreciate you. We want to do the best for all of you, Toby your concerns were touching

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

J. Sparks made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

B. Valentine-Watts seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Valentine-Watts Aye

T. Miller Aye

D. Coats Aye

J. McFarland Aye

C. Frazier Aye

L. Orcutt Aye

J. Sparks Aye

D. Pierson Aye

M. Gonulalan Absent

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Brown