



Kelly DiBenedetto
Chairperson
School Board
1200 E. 42nd Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205

Indiana School for the Deaf
School Board Meeting

October 16, 2018
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Alumni Building, Media Center

Minutes

Voting Members Absent:

Kelly DiBenedetto, Chairperson
Terri Miller

Non-Voting Members Absent:

P. J. McGrew

Voting Members Present:

Kelly DiBenedetto, Chairperson
Dr. Ray Furner
Andy Leffler
Ann Reifel, Vice Chairperson
Amy Waggoner

Non-Voting Members Present:

Rep. Ed Clere
Reva Weiss for Patrick Rhodes

ISD Staff:

Superintendent Dr. Geeslin (absent)

- I. **Call to Order:** Vice-Chairperson Reifel convened the meeting at 5:04 p.m., noting that a quorum was met.
- II. **Approval of minutes:** Motion by Dr. Furner, second by Ms. Waggoner to accept the September 18, 2018 minutes as printed. Motion passed.
- III. **Chairperson's Remarks:** Vice-Chairperson Reifel reminded the board of the importance of conducting the meeting in a bilingual / bicultural format. Only one person will communicate at a time and are asked to raise their hand to be recognized before speaking to ensure that all communities are fully informed of today's proceedings.
 - The Board is happy to see Superintendent Geeslin back.
 - Chairperson DiBenedetto is on vacation with her family and will not be attending the meeting this evening. We will see her at the November 13 meeting.

The Indiana School for the Deaf is a bilingual educational environment where students belong, excel and thrive academically and socially.

IV. Superintendent's Report:

- 175th celebration kick-off:
 1. Thanked the Administration Team for “holding down the fort” and making sure everything went smoothly.
 2. On September 28 ISD held 2 re-dedication ceremonies, rededicating buildings 5 as Dr. Laurene Simms Hall and building 6 as William & Elizabeth Willard Hall. ISD students were involved in the rededication. The elementary students provided ASL poetry and the High School students gave short skits about William Willard’s journey. ISD was fortunate to have Dr. Simms and her family join in the ceremony. Dr. Simms gave thank you remarks and touched many hearts. VIPs were then invited to lunch prepared and served by ISD students at the 1200 club diner. Over 40 individuals were served a delicious lunch!
 3. The 5K walk/run was held the morning of September 29 with approximately 350 people participating. A banquet in the evening celebrated 25 years of the bilingual/bicultural program established at ISD. Many of the founding members of the committee attended. It was nice seeing them again.
 4. As mentioned at the September meeting ISD will hold additional celebrations throughout the year.
 5. Photos of the events can be found at: www.175thisd.com
 6. No state funds are used for the 175th celebrations. Funding is provided by the 5K registrations and private donations which are managed by the Indiana School for the Deaf Alumni Association (ISDAA).

- A. 1. Education Division – Kim Kause, Director of Instruction
 - Division report – no questions from the Board
 - The current number of students enrolled at ISD is 355. ISD has 44 new students enrolled this year compared to a total of 72 last year. There are many factors for the increase of new students at ISD.
 - Ms. Witte commended ISD for sending 4 representatives to the ICASE Fall conference and that Ms. Kause attends the monthly roundtable discussions. This enables ISD to stay on top of strategies and trends, and to show the hard work and accomplishments by ISD.
 - Nancy Holsapple, Indiana Department of Special Education Director has been invited to visit ISD. ISD is waiting for confirmation of her availability. Ms. Witte would like to also be invited to the visit.
2. Student Life Division – Matt Krueger, Student Life Director
 - Division report – no questions from the Board
3. Operations Division Report – Jeremy Hawk, Director of Operations
 - Division report – no questions from the Board

- The ceiling in the auditorium has been temporarily repaired. Working with the Department of Administration for a more permanent fix for the auditorium ceiling.
 - Continued challenge in hiring maintenance staff due to the low salary offered.
4. Financial Report – Jeremy Hawk, Chief Financial Officer
- Division report – no questions from the Board.
 - ISD is on target for this fiscal year.

V. **Old Business:**

- A. Student 2017-2018 Data – Kim Kause (tabled to November 13, 2018 meeting)
- a. Superintendent Geeslin requested the information tabled to the November 13 meeting for all Board members to hear the data. Ms. Witte agreed and expressed her pleasure in ISD achieving the directive to the Board (and ISD) from Governor Daniels to improve students test results.

VI. **New Business:** None

- Q. Ms. Witte – What is the status of the Media Center furniture purchase?
- A. Ms. Kause – The furniture has not been ordered yet. ISD is making sure we get the correct and appropriate number of items.

VII. **Public comments:** None

VIII. **Board comments:**

- Rep. Clere – Will not be attending the November 13, 2018 meeting.
 - The board will keep him apprised of information shared at the meeting.

IX. **Next meeting:** November 13, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Alumni Building, Media Center

X. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned by Vice-Chairperson Reifel at 5:37 p.m.