

# IVY ACADEMY MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MISSION DRIVEN – DECISION ORIENTED

"We are scholars. We are stewards. We are volunteers. We are IVY!"



**Location:** Zoom  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 11, 2023  
**Time:** 6:30 PM ET

**6:42 PM** Call to order and roll call

**In Attendance:**

Dr. Darrell Meece, Board Chair	Sandy Pricer
Patti Skates, Board Vice President	Daniel Basham
Evelyn Henderson, Board Secretary	Annie Darden (prospective Board member)
Lee Pritchard	Holly Slater, Ivy Academy Exec. Director
Stephen Thomas	Angie Markum, Ivy Academy Dir. Dev.
Col. Hugh Enicks	

**6:42 PM** February 14, 2023 meeting minutes were moved to be approved by Skates, seconded by Henderson, motion was carried.

**6:43 PM** Board of Directors meeting schedule for 2023-2024 school year

- May 9 committee meeting
  - Henderson to update website
- June budget meeting
  - June 27 at 6:30 PM
- Move retreat to Saturday, August 19
- December 2023 meeting will be a virtual meeting
  - Henderson to put a Google Meet link on the website
- 2024 budget meeting will take place on June 25<sup>th</sup>

**6:53 PM** Prospective board member, Annie Darden, introduce by Holly Slater and Angie Markum

- Retired educator
- Taught pre-school through college
- Taught ABE
- Taught a class in early childhood at Chattanooga State
- Holds several degrees

**6:58 PM** Nominations for June 2023 – May 2026 officers

- Need to elect a President and Treasurer
- Pritchard nominated Hugh Enicks for President.
- Pritchard nominated Stephen Thomas for Treasurer.
- Both parties were voted in by acclimation.

- New officer terms (president and treasurer) will take effect in June.

**7:05 PM**

## Director of Development update

- Acquisition of 8443 Dayton Pike
  - Attorney has to approve the survey to ensure our best interests are protected
  - There are many easements
  - The middle pit where stone mining was occurring has been filled in. It will be sprayed with seed that will establish quickly. We estimate we will have a sports field by May.
- Cafeteria has been finished
  - It has a kitchen area
- Portable classroom space across the street
  - High school will use 2 portables next year
  - They are almost done being manufactured – delivery date is May 7
  - Need to settle the property so portables can be installed
  - Contractor bids are out

**7:15 PM**

## Executive Director update

- Amendment to the resolution for the USDA application
  - Already approved a \$700k loan for cafeteria building from First Horizon and switch to USDA, \$400k for the additional land purchase and absorb \$1.4 million for career center, and additional \$400k to finish cafeteria kitchen.
  - Need a new resolution to approve \$2.9 million instead of \$2.5 million to finish the kitchen.
  - Will likely get grants to pay for some of the items in the loan.
  - Meece moved to increase the USDA loan from \$2.5 million to \$2.9 million. Skates seconded the motion, motion passed.
- Ivy Academy High school graduation is May 19 at 6:30 PM.
- USDA application updates
  - Application is very long and there are a lot of hoops to jump through (e.g. finding a surveyor) that require quick action.
  - May require electronic votes due to the time sensitive nature of the process.
- Staff requests for personal days during blackout days
  - Teachers receive sick days and personal leave days each year. They are not allowed to take them during blackout days like teacher development days. If they must take them off, they require board approval, or they have to take them unpaid.
  - Nikki Bender requested May 23<sup>rd</sup> – son's school is having an end of year parade for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. May 23<sup>rd</sup> is blocked off because too many teachers would request this time off since it's the last week of school. Patti Skates moved to approve, Meece seconded, motion passed.
  - Allison Klonne (High School Geometry teacher) requested taking time off during the testing window (Thursday, April 27 – Friday, April 28) to attend an alumni event at her alma mater in Ohio. Geometry tests will not take place on Thursday or Friday. Enicks moved to approve her taking both days off, Henderson seconded. Motion passed.

**7:35 PM** Internal Affairs update

- Current financial state
  - Have been going through new TISA funding model
  - This creates anxiety for charter schools, especially those on a growth model like Skillern, because TISA does not pay for growth – they pay based on previous year
  - Ivy Academy leadership staff was concerned that the school would receive a lot less funding than they have historically been granted.
  - Every class is weighted based on the jobs that are in demand for our area (agribusiness, HVAC, etc. are high demand jobs that would be rated higher than lower demand careers)
  - No way to estimate how much money the school will get for CTE
  - Holly went through an exercise of planning for receiving less funding (e.g. budget cuts).
  - Just learned that we will receive more funding next year than we did this year, so the conservative plan will no longer be needed.
  - Holly will need to readjust budget plans for next year with this new information.

**7:50 PM** Revision to bylaws

- Dr. Meece made a motion to add the following as a point D to section 2.3 of the Ivy Academy bylaws: “The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Board in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of the Board and these standing rules.”
- Skates seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**7:55 PM** Meeting Finalization

- Review Actions to be taken
  - Holly Slater to request estimated monthly payments for \$2.5 million vs. \$2.9 million from USDA loan officer and share with the board.
  - Evelyn Henderson will post updated meeting dates on the website and send the link to the board.
  - Angie Markum requested that the board write a thank you note for the taxidermy trailer and mounts.
- Next meeting date reminder – June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

## Record of Voting Matrix:

Y = Yea, N = Nay, A = Absent, W = Withstand (Abstain)

<b>Member</b>	<b>2/14/2023 Minutes Approved</b>	<b>Hugh Enicks – next President</b>	<b>Stephen Thomas – next Treasurer</b>	<b>Increase USDA loan amount to \$2.9 million</b>	<b>Bylaws Revision</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>
Meece, D.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Skates, P.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Miller, E.	A	A	A	A	A	A
Prichard, L.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Enicks, H.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Henderson, E.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pricer, S.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ford, D.	A	A	A	A	A	A
Basham, D.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thomas, S.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y