

# 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:** Ivy Academy

**Date:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023

**Time:** 6:30 PM ET

### In Attendance:

Hugh Enicks, Board President

Evelyn Henderson, Board Secretary

Stephen Thomas, Board Treasurer

Sandy Pricer

Daniel Basham

Lee Prichard

Holly Slater, Ivy Academy Exec. Director

Matt Raper, Ivy Principal

**6:30 PM** Meeting began.

- Approval of prior meeting minutes: Enicks made a motion to approve the October minutes, Pricer seconded, the motion passed.

**6:35 PM** Treasurer Update:

- Updated working Budget for approval
  - A little under halfway through the year
  - Final TISA allocation was updated and reflected in the budget
  - \$15,000 for allcore
  - ISM is reflected (previously did not know) - \$500,000 over 4 years
  - School security - currently owe \$50,000 but will receive \$20,000 back
  - Expenses:
    - Increased electric because of the HVAC system in the Markum building (not a programmable thermostat). This has been addressed with programmable meters being installed.
    - Water - doubled because of the new ag center. A new water irrigation system with timers will be installed, as well as rainwater collection."
  - Textbooks - no longer able to piggyback on Hamilton County's Edgenuity contract for \$10,000
  - Net increase in cash: \$46,314.37
- Enicks moved to approve the budget, Thomas seconded, motion passed.

**6:44 PM** Executive Director Update:

- New construction update
  - Zoning meeting tomorrow to get new plan approved
  - Waiting on some USDA reports to be finalized
  - Then will go out for bid for construction companies

- Construction is set to start in March
- Before we can move forward with starting construction, the USDA loan has to be in place or we need interim funding until we own the land (June)
- Have spent some money on surveys that will be reimbursed by the starter fund
- Culture & academic update
  - Tyler Roberson, Assistant Principal of High School: "From my perspective, things have been going really well culturally. For the past several months we have been doing a grade level student of the week for middle and high school. The high school has had 41 total students recognized this school year, which is nearly 20% of the student body. Phil has been doing his "Spot It" program during the school day and I have given 63 students a candy bar or bag of chips at lunch for a positive contact from one of their teachers. We have also had 240 recorded positive emails/phone calls from teachers at the high school, which is awesome, but I'm sure there are many more that haven't been recorded in our Google Form. OSS and ISS are also down dramatically from last year. Academically, we just honored 118 students for honor/star roll 9th-12th and 126 6th-8th, which is 53% total . Our senior class has over a 19 average ACT score (compared to 17.8 last year). Over 65% of the senior class has already achieved "Ready Grad" status, with the rest having a plan to achieve that by the end of the year."
  - Matt Raper, Executive Principal: "We are wrapping up a strong second semester. Students will be benchmarking on Thursday and Friday, and we are excited to see the results. Another thing to note is that our senior ACT retake went great, and most of our students increased their score, including 4 students that improved their score by more than 4 points. Our teachers and other administration are also doing a great job at having high expectations for behavior. We are seeing less suspensions this year as compared to previous years, as well as less minor behaviors such as dress code violations. One of the things that is helping improve our culture is the positive behavior initiatives that our HS Assistant Principal and our MS Dean have implemented. Our students are being recognized for their hard work, great attitudes, as well as the kindness they are showing each other."
- Transportation update
  - View the full report on Ivy's website:  
<https://www.ivyacademychattanooga.com/transportation-1>

**6:54 PM**      President Update:

- SRO Update
  - Expecting \$15,000 for Ivy and \$15,000 for Skillern
  - This has not been reflected in the budget
  - Ivy Middle/High School is still \$35,000 short (originally a \$50,000 shortfall)
- Next thing to work on is maternity/paternity leave for chart school teachers
  - Hugh talked to Bill Watson and it is on the agenda for their January meeting
- Board Training update
  - Board is 100% certified for 2023-2024 year
  - Hugh will send the certificate to the state board
- Hugh and Holly went over a rubric for her performance evaluation. Holly provided her comments and Hugh/Evelyn will update it to share at the next board meeting.

**7:00 PM**      New Business

- Sandy Pricer met with someone who sits on the board of charter schools. She provided a PowerPoint presentation that explains the differences between charter schools and other public schools. She also offered to do a presentation to the board if it would be helpful to us. Potential retreat topic for August 2024.
- Patti Skates is going to be joining the charter schools board for curriculum.

**7:02 PM**      Meeting finalization

- Review actions to be taken
  - Evelyn to send a link to the budget, charter school presentation and training certificate to the board when sending out the minutes
- Next meeting date reminder
  - Jan. 10 - committees meet
  - Feb. 21 - board meets

**7:03 PM**      Meeting adjourned