



## INLAND LEADERS CHARTER SCHOOLS

### Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

13456 Bryant Street Street (BSC)

Yucaipa, CA 92399

February 7, 2022 @ 5pm

Teleconference: [Zoom link](#): Password: ILCSBOARD

**Vision:** *The vision of the Inland Leaders is to sustain a high-quality community charter school founded upon innovative instruction and character education to create 21st-century leaders.*

#### **OPEN SESSION** 5:01pm

##### **A. Pledge of Allegiance (Osborn) 5:01pm**

**B. Roll Call (Jimenez)** *Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie, Dr. Jay Jimenez, Aron Wolfe and Bonnie Mitchell.*

##### **C. Student Council Report (Student Council Members)**

*Abby Sarenana, Student Council Secretary and Wyatt Casavan, Historian, stood and presented a video about Basketball and Soccer tryouts. There is a Basketball tournament. There is a new Middle School Student Store fundraiser offering snacks and drinks. All proceeds go toward the Middle School dances.*

##### **D. Finance Committee Report (Gordon)**

*Mr. Gordon discussed the finance committee held the previous week. The committee reviewed the year to date actuals. Most of the committee focused on possible payscale adjustments for staff who have not seen a payscale adjustment for a while.*

##### **E. Administration Report: Employee recognitions: Tania Duran (Gordon)**

*Mr. Gordon presented Tania Duran, HR Coordinator, with a certificate of appreciation for her 8 years of service. The Board stood and took a picture with Mrs. Duran. The Robotics Team, lead by 8th grade Science teacher, Amanda Stodelle, was recognized for their achievements at the Robotics tournament. All team members were presented with a medal and Mrs. Stodelle was praised for the many hours she has put in to bring this team to the championship level. Mrs. Crandell, who was not present, was recognized by the team for a Mentor Award.*

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION** 5:17pm

The public may speak to any issue at this time of the meeting. Please sign in and indicate if you would like to speak to the Board on the sign-in form located on the table near the agendas. The Board is unable to deliberate or discuss items with the public that are not on the agenda. The Board Chairman will limit the length of time for comments to a reasonable period of time.

- 1. Cynthia Peterson- stated that she would support any action taken to have students not wear masks. She spoke in opposition to the vaccine. She also commented on the fact that some of the school lunches are being served frozen or soggy. She is hoping that over the summer the [lunch] program can be re-evaluated.*
- 2. Kobie Ferguson- 8th grade student, spoke in opposition to wearing masks. She referenced a trial done in Denmark that showed that masks are ineffective. She stated that she was yelled at in class for dropping mask.*
- 3. Camie Ferguson- spoke in opposition to the masks. She stated that her 3rd grade son has been affected since the 1st grade and is struggling to read.*
- 4. Vonn Hamilton- spoke in opposition to the masks. She stated that multiple schools in Beaumont are not enforcing the mask mandate. She referenced Rosa Parks and about teaching kids to stand up for their rights.*
- 5. Wyatt Casavan- 7th grade student, spoke in opposition to the masks. He stated that he can't read while wearing a mask and that it is hard to breathe.*
- 6. Lindsay Bonhus- stated that it seems that BSC is not policing the mask policy as much as CSC. She feels that the way masks are enforced should be the same at both campuses. She stated that she heard about a teacher who was threatening to reduce grades if the student's noses were seen outside the mask. She feels that the masks are hurting our kids.*
- 7. Amanda Raymond- she feels that ILCS is like family, but lately things have not been great. She feels that the school was more lenient about the masks before the [Christmas] Break. She mentioned that things are done*

differently at the other charter school.

8. Anthony Urribes- feels that the masks are affecting the kids more than it's doing good and kids are still getting sick and being sent home. He feels that the focus should not be on the masks but on educating the kids.
9. Kari Prinz-she feels that after the [winter] break the teachers are lecturing more about the masks. She stated that her son feels like he's being picked on and that he no longer enjoys going to school. She asked about putting up plexi-glass so that the teachers don't have to lecture about the masks anymore.
10. Sabrina Garcia- she mentioned that kids are touching hands and touching things outside so why are things different in the classroom. She feels that the masks are not effective. She feels that the focus should be on education and not whether or not kids are getting sick. She stated that she is opposed to the vaccine. She wants her son to stay at the school and feel safe but she feels that the kids don't feel safe at school.
11. Amy Kellison- she stated that she started the online support page for ILCS. She stated that [the support group] all love Inland Leaders and they are here fighting for their kid's education and the freedoms they deserve. She spoke in opposition to the vaccine. She referenced the comments on the support page and wants the Board to know they love and respect the school. She stated that there is no mask mandate in Texas and one particular school had zero Covid cases. She talked about children's health vs. mental health.
12. Reyna Sanchez- she talked about her 3rd grade son who has autism and is being negatively affected by the masks. She feels that everyone should have an option whether to vaccinate or wear a mask. She would like the Board to speak up and take action.

Public participation session closed 5:52pm

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION SESSION**

The Board will discuss and possibly take action on items listed in this section of the agenda.

**A. ACTION:** Recommended approval of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan (ELO-P). (Gordon)  
Mr. Gordon explained to the Board that this is a K-6th grade state grant and that ILCS has received ~\$157,000. It must be spent either before or after school or on non-school days. The money needs to be spent by June 2023. The finance committee is planning on using the money for summer school, field trips and the after school electives program. Mr. Gordon mentioned that the summer school program will be held on the Bryant St. campus because there will be painting done at the California St. campus during the summer. Summer school will be for K-8th grade, one class per grade level, 10-12 kids per class with enrichment activities. He stated that summer school [costs] approximately \$30-\$40,000. The money will also be used for supplementing K-6th field trips. They also want to use the money to expand the electives program. This money will allow them to pay the elective teachers and provide tuition for outside companies. The plan will be posted online.

Aron Wolfe asked if parents are surveyed to ask what electives they would like to see. Mr. Gordon stated that he does not recall that being a question that was asked of parents. There was discussion about offering more options for elective classes. Mr. Jimenez asked if the money is earmarked for certain electives. Mr. Gordon stated that there are many different subjects considered for electives. There was discussion about past electives that were offered and possibly using a third party vendor to provide after school electives and other programs. Mr. Jimenez asked if 12 days of summer school and one class per grade level was enough. Mr. Gordon mentioned that they have wanted to expand it and they sent out a survey to parents but there was not enough interest from parents. Casey Woodgriff, Assistant Principal, stated that they've always met the demand for summer school students. Bonnie Mitchell asked if summer school was offered to Middle School students. Mr. Gordon stated that it is offered to 7th and 8th grade students but the ELO-P grant money could not be used for Middle School.

Motion to approve by Mike Casavan, seconded by Eli Gillespie . Yea: Aron Wolfe, Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie , Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.

**B. ACTION:** Approval of the 5th-grade field trip to Pali Outdoor Education Camp with supplemental funding through the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program.  
Mr. Gordon stated that there is still an outstanding balance of ~\$15,000-\$20,000 and the ELO-P grant money can be used to supplement this field trip. He asked the Board to approve this field trip using supplemental funds.  
Motion to approve by Mike Casavan, seconded by Eli Gillespie . Yea: Aron Wolfe , Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie , Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.

**C. ACTION:** Approval of the 7th and 8th-grade field trips to Catalina Outdoor Education Camp.  
Mr. Gordon asked the Board to approve these field trips and mentioned that usually only the 7th graders go on this field

trip but due to cancellations last year, both grades will be doing the field trip this year.

Motion to approve by Mike Casavan, seconded by Bonnie Mitchell . Yea: Aron Wolfe , Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie , Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.

**D. ACTION:** Approval of the ILCS motor vehicle policy. (Gordon)

Mr. Gordon referenced a new van that the school purchased for lunch transportation. The reason for the policy is so that the vehicle is not taken advantage of, that it's being maintained appropriately and it's only being used for school purposes. The policy is also for insurance liability purposes. Bonnie Mitchell asked who will be driving the van. Mr. Gordon stated that it will be mostly Joe Rivera, custodian. Mrs. Mitchell asked who else has permission to drive. Mr. Gordon stated that Admin will have the ability to choose someone to drive and they would do a DMV check on that person. Mrs. Mitchell asked if any students would be in the van. Mr. Gordon stated that it is not approved as a student transportation vehicle and can only be used for food service.

Motion to approve by Aron Wolfe, seconded by Mike Casavan. Yea: Aron Wolfe, Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie, Jay Jimenez, Bonnie Mitchell. Motion carried.

**E. ACTION:** Recommended approval of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan. (Woodgrift)

Casey Woodgrift , Assistant Principal, reviewed the Comprehensive School Safety Plan and asked for the Board's approval. Once approved it will be submitted to the Yucaipa-Calimesa Unified School District. There was one change from last year; the Emergency Response Plan. ILCS had a mass casualty drill on Nov. 18, 2021. Since then [the School Safety Committee] has updated documents reflecting staff changes, the student location document, refined the roll call process and made a second set of the Student Emergency Release cards. Bonnie Mitchell asked if there is information in the plan regarding intruders and lockdowns. Mr. Woodgrift stated that all that information is listed in the plan. He mentioned that he will be adding a plan in the event of a swarm of bees to next year's plan. There was discussion about the fact that it's a lot of information, about age appropriate drills and locking the doors from the inside. Mr. Woodgrift mentioned that there is a copy of the School Safety Plan at the school and it is available to anyone who wants to see it.

Motion to approve by Mike Casavan, seconded by Eli Gillespie . Yea; Aron Wolfe , Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie , Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.

**F. DISCUSSION:** Board to discuss the hybrid and distance learning programs for next school year. (Gordon)

Mr. Gordon asked the Board for direction and guidance for the hybrid program. He wants to make sure there is something in place to offer families that may be looking for distance learning alternatives should the vaccine be mandated by the state. He mentioned that there are two different funds for in person learning and Independent Study learning which includes hybrid learning. Currently the school is capped at 20% of students for Independent Study. There was discussion about transitioning from hybrid to full distance learning. Bonnie Mitchell mentioned doctors writing exemptions for masks and the vaccine and there was discussion about when the mask mandate will be lifted. Aron Wolfe asked about getting donations from the ILCS Foundation or other foundations should we lose students. There was discussion about adding a private "arm" of ILCS and other options for full distance learning. Mr. Gordon talked about possibly having to downsize due to staff shortages and students not being vaccinated.

**G. ACTION:** Administration recommends the drafted School calendar for the 2022-2023 school year. (Gordon)

A survey went out to parents about potentially adding a third week to Christmas Break. Based on the responses they did not move forward with that plan. The drafted calendar mostly aligns with the district calendar except for a couple of days. There was discussion about the possibility of having to take extra days off after the Christmas break due to illnesses. If needed, they will add April 3rd and June 8th & 9th as student days.

Motion to approve by Bonnie Mitchell , seconded by Eli Gillespie . Yea: Aron Wolfe , Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie , Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.

Discussion/Action Session closed 6:37pm

The ILCS Board is provided with training or information in a workshop or session that does not involve any actionable items.

- A. **REVIEW:** Board to review Annual Statement of Economic Interest filing requirements ([Form 700](#)) to be submitted to the Clerk of the San Bernardino County Board. (Gordon)

*This is part of the Conflict of Interest policy where Board members, Mr. Gordon and the Finance Committee disclose their finances. This information is kept on-site and no longer needs to be submitted to the county.*

- B. **PRESENTATION:** Information provided to the ILCS Board in regards to new [Universal TK program](#) elements and proposed changes to the current TK program (Urrea)

*The state has enacted a new TK program that has specific requirements: 12 students to 1 adult in the classroom, students must be in school 180 minutes per day, 36,000 minutes per year. The TK program must be kept open to students who turn 5 by Feb. 2nd. The date will increase by one month each year. Students can be accepted who are not 5 by Feb. 2nd but they will not be funded until the date that they turn 5. There will be two groups of students, 8:30am-12:00pm and 9:30am-1:00pm with some crossover time during recess. This will go into effect for the 2022-2023 school year. ILCS currently has about 50 TK students who will be funded.*

C. **PRESENTATION:** Administration will provide the LCAP supplemental mid-year progress [report](#) (Gordon/Urrea) Mr. Gordon talked about the Local Control Plan which shows the process of how money is spent at the school. The first goal was to innovate systems: the hybrid program, new computers and smart boards. The second goal was about getting quality staff and interventions; curriculum and instruction. The third goal was a cultivation goal about mental health; student and staff wellness. He also mentioned the new security cameras at CSC as a part of the school safety goal. There has also been money allocated to cleaning and sanitizing. Bonnie Mitchell asked if any of the counselors brought in for mental health have talked with students about the mask issues. Mr. Gordon said that those counselors have talked with students and staff about masks and other issues. Steve Perry, Director of Student Services, mentioned that they are working on social skills and helping students that need counseling support. Mrs. Mitchell asked if any autistic students are having issues with the masks. Mr. Perry stated that he has not had any doctor's notes asking for provisions for any of those students.

D. **PRESENTATION:** State testing results will be provided to the Board from the 2020-2021 school year. (Osborn) Josh Osborn, Principal, presented the Board with the state testing scores for Math and ELA from the 2020-2021 school year. He mentioned that all state testing was shut down for the 2019-2020 school year. Overall Math proficiency dropped 6% , ELA scores went up 2%. From 2015 both Math and ELA scores have gone up. ILCS student scores exceed the state average scores. Aron Wolfe stated that this is a true testament to ILCS students and faculty and that the San Bernardino County Office of Education should show appreciation for what ILCS has done for our students. Mr. Osborn spoke about areas where they are struggling to find growth. Mr. Gordon praised Mr. Osborn for his efforts in getting the test on campus and that he was able to gain trust with the county.

### **APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR**

All matters listed under the consent calendar section are considered by the Board to be routine and will be enacted in one motion.

- A. [December 2021 Check Register](#); [January 2022 Check Register](#)

- B. December 6, 2021 Board [Minutes](#)

*Motion to approve both A and B by Aron Wolfe, seconded by Eli Gillespie. Yea: Aron Wolfe , Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie , Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.*

- C. **Approval of purchases/services/contracts/MOUs over \$10,000:**

- a. [Dell Optiplex Tower PC](#), Monitors, and Keyboards, Qty 30 - Upgraded Computer Lab computers (Mr. Holt), \$15,800

- b. [304 Dell Chromebook](#) student computers for 3rd through 5th grades, including 304 Chrome Education Licenses. \$93,110

*Motion to approve by Aron Wolfe , seconded by Bonnie Mitchell . Yea: Aron Wolfe , Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie , Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.*

**D. Acceptance of donations:**

- a. General Donations: Little Smiles Pediatric Dentistry \$81.00
- b. In-Kind Donations: None
- c. Fundraising Donations: None

**E. New Hires**

- a. Certificated
  - i. Victoria Melton, Education Specialist-Intern
  - ii. Miranda Bravo, School Psychologist-Intern
- b. Classified
  - i.

**F. Resignations**

- a. Certificated
  - i. Danyelle Pappas, Substitute Teacher
  - ii. Christopher Dowdy, Substitute Teacher
- b. Classified
  - i. Nadine Jones, Office Clerk II

**G. Special Business Functions**

- a. Board to approve the extension of the Nurse services contract as recommended by the ILCS finance committee.

*Motion to approve D-G by Mike Casavan, seconded by Eli Gillespie . Yea: Aron Wolfe , Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie , Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.*

**H. Special Requests- none**

**RATIFICATIONS**

A.

**CLOSED SESSION**

A.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

*Aron Wolfe- stated that he was floored by the state testing results. He expressed amazement for the faculty, students and parents. He feels that the masks have not had an effect on the test results. Stated that it is a true testament to the institution and families. He would like to see some sort of acknowledgement to the staff to honor them.*

*Mike Casavan- thanked everyone for making this happen. He acknowledged that the quality of the school lunches has gone down. He stated that they have the ability to improve morale and bring back quality lunches. He expressed appreciation to the parents for their patience through all of this. He stated that they share the same feelings and as soon as they can get things changed, they will.*

*Eli Gillespie - showed appreciation to the parents who got up and spoke. He stated that he is not a fan of the masks. He expressed frustration toward our state leaders. He mentioned other states and countries that are dropping the mask mandate and their Covid numbers are the same as ours. He expressed appreciation for the school and he's saddened by the kids having to deal with [the masks].*

*Bonnie Mitchell - she expressed care and concern for the students over the masks and the vaccine. She commented about other states giving people a choice. She wants to explore the mental health aspect of what this is doing and the potential for doctors waivers. She expressed concern over doing distance learning next year. She suggested giving every class a pizza party outside with no masks.*

*Jay Jimenez - expressed gratitude for the passion from the parents and students. He wants to continue to have forums for discussion. He encouraged everyone to stay positive. He feels that we can do better with food service. He commented on shortages in the food industry. He commented on the amazing test scores and praised the teachers, parents and students.*

Bonnie Mitchell - mentioned how nice it is that Covid testing is provided every Friday at the CSC campus. She expressed appreciation for it and feels that it is a good use of resources.

The Board decided on March 14, 2022 for the next Board meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Casavan, seconded by Bonnie Mitchell . Yea: Aron Wolfe, Mike Casavan, Eli Gillespie, Jay Jimenez , Bonnie Mitchell . Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT** 7:23pm

  
**Board Secretary**

  
**Date**