Minutes of Imboden Area Charter School

The regular September Meeting was combined with a requested emergency meeting with the PTO and held at 6:00 PM, Thursday, September 29, 2022 at Imboden Area Charter School, 605 West Third Street, Imboden, Arkansas.

Board members present were Blake Clements, Scott Rorex, Mike McLeod, and President George Morris. Director Matthew Wells was also present. Parents in attendance included Angela Kain, Bill Cossey, Sarah Casey, Elizabeth Colburn, Chrissy Archer, and Leslie Johnson.

President George Morris Presiding:

Director Matthew Wells’ report:

* Enrollment has dropped to 52 students.
* All Board members are encouraged to attend the Regional ASBA Meeting at Jonesboro High School on October 7th from 5:30 to 8:30. This will fulfill 3 hours of the 6 required professional development hours for returning Board members.
* Lisa will check on the possibility of an offering at IACS through the Arkansas Public School Resource Center.
* Mr. Wells gave the floor to the parent group to express their concerns. Angela Kain spoke on behalf of the parent group explaining the group’s dissatisfaction with disciplinary issues. Concerns began with complaints about Officer Reese being involved in the school. Reese had spoken to a child regarding behavior which didn’t sit well with the parent group. The child had been spoken to numerous times by the classroom teacher, and had stayed in from recess because of his physicality to other students. Parents were upset that a police officer spoke to their child. Realistically, the student should have been suspended by Mr. Wells, but was given an opportunity to improve his behavior. Concerns continued over disciplinary issues with Ms. Colburn explaining her dissatisfaction with her Kindergarten son being suspended for three days. The child in question is a special needs student and has several disabilities. The child threatened to kill another student, and Mr. Wells suspended him for three days because of the comment. Ms. Colburn explained that her son’s medication had been changed and that he has had some difficulty controlling outbursts. Lastly, parents expressed concern over Special Education. Concerns expressed dealt with HIPPA and compliance with minutes in the children’s IEPs. Mr. Wells agreed with the parent group over this matter and resolved to work more closely with Ms. Wilson to remedy the errors that were currently present. The board heard all comments and felt that policy was followed in all disciplinary actions. The board also advertised to the parent group that there was a vacant position available on the board, and that they were welcome to campaign for the position. All parties left the meeting amicably with the parent group agreeing that some student behaviors were out of line, and Mr. Wells and the Board agreeing that policy needed to be followed more closely in regards to special education.

Director Matthew Wells’ report continues:

* Director Wells presented the Annual Equity Compliance Report for review.

Motion made by Scott Rorex and seconded by George Morris to approve the Annual Equity Compliance Report, and authorized Director Wells to submit the report during the upcoming Cycle Report. Motion passed 4 to 0.

* Director Wells presented the General Fund, Federal Funds, and Child Nutrition Revenue and Expenditure Budgets for review and approval

Motion made by George Morris and seconded by Scott Rorex to approve budgets as presented. Motion passed 4 to 0.

* The Arkansas Department of Education Statement of Assurances for Programs under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act was presented for review.

Motion made by George Morris and seconded by Scott Rorex to authorize Matthew Wells to sign the assurances as presented as required by Section 9306 and to submit the applicable budgets. Motion passed 4 to 0.

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Scott Rorex and seconded by George Morris to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed 4 to 0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

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Scott Rorex, Secretary Date