

Career Academy of South Bend, Inc.
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
September 24, 2019

Directors Present: Dan Adams, Kay Antonelli, Larry Garatoni, Michael Garatoni, Chad Hartzell, Marian Hodges, Mark Melnick, Lori Smith, Nick Swisher
Staff Attending: Alex Hammel, Jeremy Luginbill, Nick Garstka, Rob Kohler, Janet Scott, Kim Richardson
Also Attending: Brian Pawlowski, Charles Loeser, Emily Gaskill

Larry Garatoni called the meeting to order at 4:55 pm at the Success Academy, 3804 Ardmore Trail, South Bend.

A. Prior Minutes. The minutes of the prior (August 27) meeting were approved.

B. School Operations.

1. Success Academy Primary School. Janet Scott, Instructional Coach for Success Academy, explained that Dean Fecher was absent for a principals' conference in Indianapolis, so she would present the Success Academy academic data from the ILEARN test, given in Spring 2019 for the first time (replacing the prior ISTEP test). The ILEARN test resulted in drastically lower pass rates in both English and math throughout the State. Since pass rates are now below 60% statewide for both English and math at every grade level (and in most cases far below 60%), the implication, in view of Indiana's school grading system, which classifies a pass rate below 60% as an "F" performance, is that Indiana's schools and Indiana's children are "failing."

To conclude from the ILEARN results that Indiana's schools and children are failing, Janet said, would be a mistake. That is clear from the results of the only standardized tests given throughout the United States and internationally. On the *National Assessment of Educational Progress* tests for reading and math, given every few years to a representative sample of fourth graders and eighth graders, Indiana students score significantly higher than the U.S. average: only a few states score significantly higher, while many score significantly lower.¹ Clearly Indiana schools are not failing; the shockingly low ILEARN pass rates are misleading.

Nonetheless, Janet said, there is value in the high-reaching standards of the ILEARN test, which will lead schools to teach language and math skills at a higher level than in the past. This year's pass rates, however, must be understood in the context of new and higher expectations of students.

¹ The Indiana profile on the NAEP ("Nation's Report Card") website shows for 2017 (most recent data):

Subject	# of states higher	# of states similar	# of states lower
Reading Grade 4	3	18	30
Reading Grade 8	2	10	39
Math Grade 4	0	10	42
Math Grade 8	5	16	31

https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/profiles/stateprofile/overview/IN?cti=PgTab_OT&chort=1&sub=MAT&sj=iN&fs=Grade&st=MN&year=2017R3&sg=Gender%3A+Male+vs.+Female&sgv=Difference&ts=Single+Year&tss=2015R3-2017R3&sfj. Additionally, on the [Trends in International Mathematics & Science Study](#) test, Indiana scores higher in math than most countries, on a par with highly regarded educational systems such as Finland and Israel, significantly higher than the U.S. average, Norway, Sweden, Australia, and New Zealand; and in science, Indiana is lower than only a few countries, on a par with Russia, Hong Kong, Connecticut and the U.S. average, while significantly higher than many highly-regarded educational systems such as Israel, Sweden, Norway, and Australia. See https://nces.ed.gov/timss/pdf/results11rev_Indiana_Math.pdf and https://nces.ed.gov/timss/pdf/results11rev_Indiana_Science.pdf.

The Success Academy's Spring 2019 ILEARN pass rates were substantially lower than the ISTEP pass rates from Spring 2018 but were consistent with the pass rates of comparison SBCSC schools:

School	ELA 18-19	Math 18-19	English/ Language Arts			Math		
			Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
Coquillard	7.4	9.3	6.7	15.4	0	20.0	7.7	2.6
Madison	6.5	10.3	5.7	4.8	8.8	12.5	13.1	5.5
McKinley	20.5	17.8	23.6	17.4	21.3	20.0	10.1	24.6
Muessel	5.5	7.9	10.0	5.4	2.6	15.0	4.1	5.3
Success	15.6	19.6	10.3	9.6	23.5	23.4	16.9	19.1

Janet outlined instructional plans for the coming year, including frequent diagnostic testing and individualized instruction, for which Alex noted the availability of an I-PAD for each student through the school's 1:1 program will provide significantly stepped-up capability.

2. Career Academy Middle School. Nick Garstka, principal of the middle school, reported that CAMS 2019 ILEARN pass rates were lower than 2018 ISTEP pass rates but consistent with scores of South Bend Community Schools Corporation middle schools:

ILEARN Pass %	School ELA	ELA			School Math	Math		
		Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8		Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
SBCSC	*	20.0	24.6	29.8	*	18.2	18.7	18.8
Clay	**	11.8	19.5	36.1	**	15.1	13.0	22.2
Dickinson	15.9	8.8	16.6	23.5	5.7	7.8	4.7	4.5
Edison	17.4	18.9	18.1	15.0	9.7	9.6	13.2	6.0
Jackson	11.9	8.3	11.3	17.0	7.0	3.6	7.7	10.1
Jefferson	37.0	28.9	34.8	48.2	29.0	28.9	24.7	34.1
LaSalle	54.3	50.2	56.4	56.5	49.3	49.3	52.9	45.5
Navarre	10.1	9.6	9.9	11.0	7.7	8.9	8.5	5.6
CAMS	36.5	21.7	44.2	45.0	22.6	16.0	20.0	32.0

Source: IDOE Data Center <https://www.doe.in.gov/accountability/find-school-and-corporation-data-reports>

*No school-wide pass rate is given for SBCSC since the published Corporation rates include grades 3-5 as well as grades 6-8.

** No school-wide pass rate is given for Clay International Academy since it includes Grades K-8 and the school's pass rate as reported on the IDOE Data Center includes grades 3-5 as well as grades 6-8.

Nick added that although the ILEARN biology test is not counted in determining a school's grade under Indiana's accountability system,² the excellent scores received by Career Academy Middle School and Career

² The ILEARN English and math scores are to be used in determining accountability grades under the State's current rules but the IDOE (through State Superintendent of Education Jennifer McCormick) and Governor Holcomb have called for legislation to prevent the 2019 scores from being used for that purpose, see https://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/lake/lake-newsletter/state-schools-chief-joins-call-to-hold-spring-ilearn-scores/article_50289487-b5a2-5625-bf0c-9fd32dab389f.html and <http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/story/40962556/holcomb-seeking-waiver-for-schools-on-ilearn-scores>.

Academy High School on the biology test (detailed below) are an important indicator that students are learning how to use language and numeric skills in application to science and technology.

3. Career Academy High School. Jeremy Lugbill, principal of the high school, explained that the ILEARN test was not used for high schools, which took the ISTEP test in Spring 2019. Jeremy presented the high school's pass rates in comparison to state-wide rates and other area high schools:

	Total		Paid Lunch		Free-Reduced		Gen Ed		Special Ed	
	18-19 ELA	18-19 Math	18-19 ELA	18-19 Math	18-19 ELA	18-19 Math	18-19 ELA	18-19 Math	18-19 ELA	18-19 Math
State	62.4	35.3	73.9	46.8	46.6	19.3	68.9	39.5	19.8	7.7
Adams	58.6	25.4	81.6	44.0	43.8	12.7	62.0	29.6	33.3	11.4
Clay	39.0	22.0	31.9	31.0	33.6	17.6	45.2	26.7	17.5	5.3
Riley	51.6	22.8	69.0	41.7	44.0	14.2	57.0	25.2	6.9	3.4
Washington	23.5	5.5	18.9	5.4	25.2	5.6	29.2	6.8	0	0
SBCSC	48.0	21.1	66.8	37.4	38.8	12.7	53.3	23.6	16.6	5.7
Mishawaka	53.4	28.4	66.9	39.1	42.3	19.3	58.9	30.9	14.8	3.7
John Glenn	73.3	50.3	74.5	55.7	70.6	41.2	81.4	55.7	5.9	11.8
PHM	82.9	62.4	87.8	67.4	65.5	45.5	87.9	66.8	32.4	21.1
Career H.S.	57.6	40.0	67.9	48.3	48.4	32.3	66.7	47.6	35.3	22.2

Of note:

1. Career Academy scored 4.7 % above the State pass rate for math (40 – 35.3).
2. Career Academy scored 9.6% above SBCSC high schools in English (57.6 – 48.0) and 18.9% higher in math (40.0 – 21.1).
3. Career Academy scored slightly above SBCSC high schools in English for paid lunch students (by 1.1%, 67.9 –66.8) but significantly higher for free/reduced lunch (by 9.6%, 48.4 –38.8).
4. Career Academy scored significantly above SBCSC high schools in math for paid lunch students (by 11.9%, 48.3 –37.4) but with a greater difference for free/reduced lunch students (by 19.6%, 32.3 – 12.7).
5. Career Academy scored higher than the State rate and all area schools in pass rates for Special Education students for both ELA and math.³

Jeremy added that for the ILEARN biology test, an IDOE Data Center report⁴ shows that there were 326 corporations with reported pass rates, of which Career Middle ranked #2 and Career High ranked #13. Jeremy introduced and thanked biology teacher Chad Roggow, who received enthusiastic applause, and also thanked biology teacher June Lenher, who was not present.

³ Career Academy High School also scored above the State, SBCSC and Mishawaka High School in the pass rate for African-American students for both English and math (CAHS: 41.2% English and 17.6% math; State 37.4% English and 12.1% math; SBCSC 29.5% English and 7.8% math; Mishawaka 27.3% English and 13.6% math). See IDOE Data Center 2019 ISTEP+ Grade 10 Corporation Results – Disaggregated.

⁴ 2019 ILEARN Biology Corporation Results, at <https://www.doe.in.gov/accountability/find-school-and-corporation-data-reports>.

Jeremy remarked that the school leadership does not consider test scores to be the measure of a school's success. The principles of education-for-life, for which the school was founded and by which it is operated, go far beyond such a measure. But since that is the basis by which the school is likely to be judged by all who do not know or care about the school's mission, these scores are important.

C. Enrollment Update. Rob Kohler, Marketing Director, reported on this year's marketing campaign, which has been quite successful. Alex said that the count will not be finalized until sometime in October but it appears the enrollment total will substantially exceed the budget projection (1264).

D. Resolution. Larry Garatoni noted that with the continued growth of enrollment, the schools have reached the point that increased enrollment in 2020-21 would require additional classroom space. Accordingly, Larry asked for the Board's authorization to investigate and pursue the acquisition of additional classroom capacity, subject to the condition that commitment of over \$20,000 of Corporation funds would require further Board approval. Dan Adams made a motion to that effect, which was seconded and passed unanimously.

E. Financial Reports. CFO Kim Richardson presented the financial statement for August 2019, noting that the budget will need to be modified after the student count is finalized. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the financial statements were approved.

F. Trine Report. Emily Gaskill presented a summary of the Trine team's observations after visiting Career and Success this month and explained Trine's review process, documented as follow:

Accountability Plan Status Update		
The Accountability Plan Status Update is a progress monitoring tool to provide a snapshot of the school's performance and status as it relates to the Accountability Plan Performance Rubric. The status update utilizes Google Sheets and allows you to compare monthly progress by clicking on the tabbed sheets found at the bottom of the document.		
<u>SASB</u>	<u>CASB MS</u>	<u>CASB HS</u>

Instructional Rating Breakdown		
The Instructional Rating Breakdown illustrates the percentage of classrooms exhibiting a concern in each of the instructional components observed during the monthly site visit. The percentages are then converted into points based on a weighting system found in the Accountability Plan Performance Rubric. The sum of those points indicates the Instruction sub-indicator rating. Also included in the Instructional Rating Breakdown are overarching next steps discussed with the school during the leadership debrief conducted after the site visit and data to track monthly progress in each instructional component and overall rating.		
<u>SASB</u>	<u>CASB MS</u>	<u>CASB HS</u>

Accountability Plan Performance Rubric		
The Accountability Plan Performance Rubric indicates the requirements for each rating category for each sub-indicator found in the Accountability Plan Status Update that will be presented out at the board meeting.		
<u>SASB</u>	<u>CASB MS</u>	<u>CASB HS</u>

G. Public Comment. Larry Garatoni stated that the Board invites public comment or questions at the conclusion of each meeting, and asked if anyone wished to speak. There being no comments, questions, or further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.



Charles M. Loeser, Assistant Secretary