

INDIANAPOLIS METROPOLITAN HIGH SCHOOL, LLC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 12, 2024

MINUTES

The Board of Directors of the Indianapolis Metropolitan High School, LLC met at 9:00 am on March 12, 2024, at Goodwill's headquarters. Present were:

Gita Baker, present

Kofi Barko, present

Garland Graves, not present

Perry Griffith, present

Kent Kramer, present

Jay Oliver, present

Don Palmer, present

Laura Pickett, present

Doris Pryor, present

Josh Shelton, present

Staff/Other:

Shannon Brown

Katie Bustamante

Josh Cooper

Ivan Cropper

Betsy Delgado

Matt Fortney

Lynn Greggs

Amanda Grube

Miriam Henry

Kim Myers

Lakia Osborne

Kari Podany

Board Chair Gita Baker presided and called the meeting to order.

There was no public comment.

On a motion by Perry Griffith, duly seconded, the minutes of the January 29, 2024, Board of Directors meeting were approved as previously distributed. Roll call by individual members' present were all in agreement of approval.

Shannon Brown reviewed the Dashboard, highlighting the following:

- The percentage of students passing five or more credit-bearing classes has increased from 26% to 27.5% in Cycle 3 and to 28% in the weeks since the assessment.
- There was an improvement in English and math proficiency rates, with 42% of students having a 60% proficiency rate or higher in English and 46% in math.
- Attendance issues, especially during testing, have impacted on these figures.
- There is ongoing work with the College Board to accommodate the limited number of times a test can be taken per year for the final benchmark in April.
- There was a decrease in the overall percentage of students on track for graduation due to an influx of 12th graders who are mostly off track and will need to return for a fifth year.
- The career interest presentations planned for April have been scheduled and will be shared with the team in an invitation to be sent out.

There was discussion on the impact of Covid-19 on the graduation rates, noting a significant drop compared to pre-pandemic times and how to effectively evaluate performance and measure success in the current context. Further discussion on the graduate data was suggested to better understand the numbers involved.

Shannon clarified that the first row in Graduation rates represents the percentage of students on track to graduate, while the second row indicates the expected number of graduates on track to receive certification or dual credit. She explained the difference in numbers with the second row representing students who could potentially graduate this year.

There was discussion on the categories of students and methodology used to calculate graduation rates and the increase in the number of students re-engaging after a period of absence, and how this impacts their graduation trajectory.

Betsy Delgado commented on the importance of understanding and tracking student progress and re-engagement in the metrics at the state level. She noted concerns about potential changes to the diploma, specifically around alternative schools. Betsy emphasized the need to influence the State Board of Education and the Department of Education to ensure changes align with the school's vision. She also noted the timeline for these changes, with a new diploma and accountability expected in 2027.

There was discussion on the protection aspect of the work being done, emphasizing the importance of defending any actions or strategies.

Betsy highlighted the challenges of meeting certain metrics, particularly the 80% on track metric, and explanation of reasons for not hitting this target. She shared that staff is advocating for the cause and educating stakeholders about the Met's unique situation. Betsy mentioned the need to adapt the model to accommodate students who come to them with various challenges.

There was discussion on questions about the statistics of students who come to the Met and later enroll in The Excel Center, and those who did not make it through. Further data on these metrics will be coming.

Shannon briefly remarked on the question around recognition and incentives for student attendance, noting a variety of celebrations and receiving Puma points, which can be used toward the purchase of prom tickets, etc.

Lakia Osborne reported on the Positive School Discipline Institute, highlighting the commitment in implementing culturally responsive and trauma-informed practices in the school. She noted that since the training, the school's suspension rates had dropped by 50% and there is work towards becoming a fully trauma-informed school. She commented on the need to understand each student's unique experiences and provide support to facilitate their learning and growth.

Katie Bustamante announced that Shannon Brown had been selected as the Indy Met's new Principal to begin at the end of the 2024 school year.

There was no comment from the Mayor's Office.

The meeting was adjourned.