

Our mission is to foster meaningful growth in intellectual virtues, which are the personal qualities of an excellent thinker or learner. In particular, we will focus on fostering IVA's nine "master virtues," which are curiosity, intellectual autonomy, intellectual humility, attentiveness, intellectual carefulness, intellectual thoroughness, open-mindedness, intellectual courage, and intellectual tenacity.



# Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 19, 2014 at 7:00 PM

**Title of Meeting:** Board of Directors

**Location:** Long Beach, CA

**Board Members Present:** Eric Churchill, Rebecca Irwin, Steve Porter, Edward Castro, Jason Baehr, James McGrath, Karyn Pace, Janet Watt, Gregg Whelan

**Board Members Absent:** Shelly Millsap

**Staff Present:** Jacquie Bryant, Danielle Montiel

## Order of Business

1. Call to Order - 7:06 by Eric Churchill
2. Report of Closed Session actions - *nothing to report*
3. Public Hearing - *no previous requests*
4. Call for additional Agenda Items / Adoption of the Agenda

Eric Churchill moved to adopt the agenda for March 19th, 2014

Second: Gregg

There was no further discussion

Unanimously approved

Item #140301

5. Approval of the Minutes

Eric Churchill moved to revise the minutes from February 15th, 2014

Second: Karyn

Minutes approved with revisions

Item #140302

6. Public Testimony on Agenda Items - *none previously submitted*

## Understanding our Mission

7. Listened to NPR story "Does Teaching Kids to Get Gritty Help them Get Ahead?" Discuss: do we need to be passionate about something to be gritty about it? Distinction between tenacity and perseverance; also possibly grit and perseverance: Perseverance has an important temporal dimension. You can't show perseverance in a slice of time. Perseverance requires persistence over time. With tenacity, there has to be a reasonably high level of challenge and difficulty; you can show tenacity in a short period of time; a student in one class period can show tenacity in one problem or task. I think grit cuts across both of those.



## Chairman's Communication

8. Eric spoke on organizations having momentum  $p=mv$ . IVA is the mass (starting from heavy thoughts in two philosopher's heads). You can have momentum with just mass, but if you have velocity it increases. As a board, we need to be smart to make sure we are on the right trajectory. A lot of negative operators can cause us to go off the desired path.

What will keep us on track? The nine master virtues! Practicing what we teach. Aligning identity with our mission - to foster meaningful growth in our nine master virtues and incorporating int. virtues in everything we do.

Roles of the board:

Legal responsibility - charter, bylaws, and corporate codes

Oversight - select and review admin resources, program, planning

Mission - establish ensure alignment strategic planning

Fundraising - safeguard public image, raise support, spread the word

Exemplify - understanding, self-reflection, model

### > Action Item: think on what our role is in the school and review member commitments

Eric has created a decision-making matrix. Eric would like to propose conducting business via a consent agenda: this groups routine procedural informational and self-explanatory non-controversial items typically found in an agenda allowing approval by a single motion which streamlines the meeting.

## Committee Updates

9a. Finance Committee

### > Action Item: Board members to consider meaningful contribution (monetary and/or donation in kind)

Fundraising for specific school projects (list also provided in Dropbox):

- iPads for all students
- Sports equipment
- Field trips
- Books
- Volunteers

Greg also spoke to fundraising

### > Action Item : need to assemble a formal fundraising committee

Start with a good finish - x amount of dollars needed, how do you reach your goal.

Build vendor relationships

Even small gatherings should have a small fee - no freebies



b. Marketing and Grant Writing - Sarah and David from Orange Door gave a report that included a list of submissions and the reason for the declines along with pending grants and what is currently in the pipeline. Important to note foundation community is now aware of us through this process.

c. Admissions Policy - James presented the proposed solution for families with multiples applying.

Motion: Eric moved to amend the current admissions and waiting list policy including the three recommendations given by the committee.

Second:

There was no further discussion

Unanimously approved

Item #140303

d. Curriculum - We are currently using Powerschool this year. It was created as an attendance tracking system and has limitations. The staff has looked into Illuminate - it was intended from the beginning to be a system of assessments, a more user-friendly system.

Motion: Janet moved to approve entering into an agreement with Illuminate within a total spend not to exceed \$22,000 of start up costs for the Illuminate system for the 2014-2015 school year beginning in March 2014 [contract approval pending ability to review and negotiate]

Second: Gregg

Unanimously approved

Item #140304

e. Food Services - Janet reported the committee is working with the landlord for approvals.

**f. Danielle's report will be retained for our next meeting**

## Principal's Update

10. Jacquie Bryant shared that report cards just came out. students are talking about intellectual virtues in a way that they own. We are doing a fine job as a school to make this language familiar. She is learning a lot about working with part-time teachers that are employed for only a short amount of time. The faculty training will be set up at the end of a trimester so the new teachers will have a full day of training before they begin

**> Action Item: A core group of people will get together to look at our elective program.**

11. Public Comments on Agenda Items - *none*

12. New Items of Business for our next Board Meeting on April 16th - *none*

13. Call to adjourn - Eric adjourned the meeting at 9:32pm

The next IVA Board Meeting will be held on April 16, 2014 at the IVA office located at 3601 Linden Avenue, LB 90807.

Respectfully submitted:

Rebecca Irwin, ad hoc Recording Secretary