



West Ada

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING October 30, 2017

Date, Place & Time	A special meeting of the Board of Trustees, West Ada School District, is scheduled for Monday, October 30, 2017 at Idaho Fine Arts Academy, 3467 W. Flint Drive, Eagle Idaho. The board will convene at 5:00 p.m. in the Recital Hall at Idaho Fine Arts Academy in special session.
Trustees in Attendance	Trustees: Chairman Phil Neuhoff, Vice Chairman Vuittonet, Ed Klopfenstein, Steve Smylie, and Rene Ozuna,
Staff in Attendance	Dr. Mary Ann Ranells, Cheri Newbold, Joe Yochum, and Debbie Arstein
Guests	Chris Housel, Shawna Exline, Kaitlin Blake, Brendan Earle, Christopher Booth, Cynthia Anderson, Amanda Watson, Mary Ollie, Rob Lundgreen, Erica Dymmer, Patricia LeDoux, Russell Mergan, Audrie Earle, Rachel Swenson, Jennifer Delfin, and Brent Davies
CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE	Chairman Phil Neuhoff
Tour of Idaho Fine Arts	Chris Housel provided a tour of the Idaho Fine Arts Academy (IFAA) facility to members of the Board and patrons.
Discussion	Trustee Klopfenstein asked Mr. Housel about the possibility of expanding (IFAA) facility and the current capacity of IFAA. Mr. Housel reported the current capacity with staff and students is about 210. Mr. Yochum indicated the grass in front of the facility belongs to IFAA. Chairman Neuhoff questioned the amount spent to maintain the property. Mr. Yochum and Mr. Housel both indicated the custodial staff is full time, which West Ada provides, the upkeep of the grounds is a contract with a private company and West Ada does have financial obligations to the Eagle Island Home Owners Association. Dr. Ranells indicated she thought the amount was thirty thousand a year. Mr. Yochum indicated the cost is over thirty thousand a year. Mr. Housel stated IFAA has space for 189 students. Trustees asked what grade level tends to have the most changes in student enrollment from year to year. Mr. Housel reported the Junior and Senior year students tend to go to a traditional high school to seek classes not offered at IFAA. Mr. Housel reported the biggest challenge is the lack of

transportation for students especially for the middle school students that are unable to drive. Mr. Housel reported last year he had 53 spots available. Auditions totaled 208 with 128 late applications for a total of 336 students wanting to attend IFAA. He explained IFAA does not take students second semester. Trustee Smylie questioned Mr. Housel about the IFAA family culture. Trustee Smylie wanted to know if the doubling the student population would change the culture of the school. Mr. Housel indicated the first concern is the kids and offering them more physical space and more class offerings. The second concern is for the teachers and managing the master schedule and the third concern is the tax payer. Vice Chairman Vuittonet indicated a successful culture is already established at IFAA and a providing choice as an option for students and families is important. The possibility to relocate IFAA in a centralized location, near the District Service Center, and offering transportation would allow other students opportunity to access IFAA as a choice in education. Trustees asked Mr. Housel about the middle school program offered at IFAA. Mr. Housel and Dr. Ranells both indicated the talent and level of expertise the IFAA middle school program offers needs to continue. Students will be lose the opportunity to pursue their artistic interests if we wait until they are in the 9th grade year to offer such an intense study of the Arts. Mr. Housel stated this is a big part of the student's identity and passion. Vice Chairman Vuittonet asked Mr. Yochum about the bidding process. Mr. Yochum stated by code the legal notice will be posted for two weeks. This process can be done twice. If we don't receive a bid for the \$6 million, we have the option of reducing the price. Vice Chairman Vuittonet explained the compensation and commission to the Trustees. Vice Chairman Vuittonet indicated this is a great opportunity. Trustees still need to have some conversation about the potential of selling and working with ICOM and ISU. Vice Chairman Vuittonet would like to see some sort of Medical Arts educational option offered in our district that would to work directly with ISU and ICOM. Vice Chairman Vuittonet also indicated the need to move Rebound. Dr. Ranells indicated the moving of Rebound had been discussed. Trustees all agreed IFAA is housed in a unique facility, which would be a good location and building for a variety of businesses. Mr. Housel and Trustees all agreed choice matters in a district our size and the IFAA offers choice for many students. A centralized location and transportation would open the opportunity for more students in the District.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, **Trustee Smylie** seconded and the vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:19a.m.

Chairman

Clerk