

**Linn Christian Education Association
Isaac Newton Christian Academy
October Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 26, 2021
6:00 – 8:15 p.m.**

Present: Mike LeMieux, Bob Mosey, Amy McDonald, Harris Holsapple, Jonathan Newberry, Barb McDaniel, Tracy King, Dean Ridder. **Not present:** Krupa Premkumar

Devotional and Opening Prayer

Barb opened with prayer. Amy shared from Psalm 37. We are not to fear but trust in the Lord and do good. We are to delight in the Lord and He will give us the desires of our heart because He is at work in us to change our desires to His. Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him. We need to fix our eyes on Him.

Secretary's Report

Krupa will present the minutes from the September meeting for Board approval at the November meeting.

Head of School Report

Dean shared his report which included:

- At a recent event, Dean networked with a lawyer and discussed our policies and any concerns we should be aware of considering the recent cultural environment. One policy that was mentioned was a Gift Acceptance Policy which we do not currently have. The 990 tax return also requires a Gift Acceptance Policy. Dean provided a sample policy for our review. The Executive Committee will review restricted or non-cash gifts to determine if the gift has value to the school or is too complicated to administer. Unrestricted cash gifts will be accepted without restriction. Jonathan moved and Mike seconded to approve these edits. Motion passed unanimously. As we communicate with donors, we need to be careful not to give tax advice. LCEA will provide a receipt for the donation, but it is up to the individual or tax preparer to determine whether the gift can be claimed as a tax-deductible donation.
- Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality 2.03.03 – No changes proposed.
- Pastoral Discount 4.01.06 8.15 – Last sentence will be removed.
- Health and Well Being Policy 8.07 – Policy will just be the first paragraph. The nutrition goals will be moved to the handbook. Mike moved and Bob seconded the motion to approve proposed policy changes.
- Dean provided the Foundational documents that the teachers agree to adhere to every year. The Board of Directors will also be asked to sign this document now and in the future.
- Cedar Valley has requested Isaac Newton to hold their student records in the event that the school has to close. Mike moved and Bob seconded the motion to accept Cedar Valley's records. Approved unanimously.
- Dean also provided a handout giving guidelines to parents who are also school board members.

Development/Enrollment Director Report

Tracy shared her report which included:

- Current enrollment is 284. She continues to manage incoming requests for this year and next.
- The 2022 Banquet is scheduled at the Double Tree Hotel for April 8, 2022. The speaker will be Jeff Keaton, Founder of Renewation. A banquet committee is being assembled and this year childcare will be provided.

- A project for year-end giving was discussed. Options could be a sound system for the Patriot Center or mulch for the playground.
- Monday, February 7, 2022 will be a PreK/Kindergarten Open House
- Tracy will be attending a 4-day training session in Kansas City, 11/30-12/3.
- Mike asked about dual enrollment in public school to enhance our elective offerings. Dean said transportation is a challenge. Amy said public schools won't allow our students to take only one class.

Treasurer's Report

Bob shared the following:

- No financials available for board review due to focus on pies this month.
- Tuition and salaries need to be discussed in light of current and projected inflation.
- The Discounts committee will also meet to evaluate our current policies and their cost/benefits.

Committee Reports/Unfinished Business

- **Pandemic Response** – Dean reported that the school is continuing to follow the established guidelines. There have been very few cases of students with Covid.
- **Patriot Center Completion** – The last bill from Primus has been received and paid. The outstanding needs are for signage and weight room equipment. Jeff Westrom has been consulted about the Patriot Center wall with a projected budget of \$10k. We have paid \$250k to date on our loan. Jonathan moved and Mike seconded a motion to pay down another \$25k and explore refinancing. Motion passed unanimously. Julie will be asked to contact the bank to ask about refinancing the remainder.
- **Facilities Committee** – The committee will meet next week to discuss future plans for the area between the Patriot Center and the main school building.
- **Newton's Pies** – Bob Mosey reported that all apple pies were sold. There are a few berry pies remaining. Apples were less expensive this year, but berries were more. Production went smoothly.
- **Protect Our Ministry Committee** – Dean and Amy will look into an additional legal review, possibly using the ACSI legal team.
- **Nominating Committee** – Several names of potential Board members were mentioned. Committee will be talking to these individuals to assess interest.
- **Communication Committee** – Committee is meeting to discuss our mission and vision and how to improve our sense of community at Isaac Newton.
- **STEM** – no report
- **SAC** – no report
- **Finance/Discount committee** – no report
- **Benchmarking initiative** – no report

Confirmed Future Meetings: Nov 30th, Jan 18th and closed in prayer.