

International Academy Joint Steering Committee
June 3, 2019 at 6:00 PM - District Main Conference Room

MINUTES

PRESENT: Royal Oak Superintendent Mary Beth Fitzpatrick; Bloomfield Hills Superintendent Dr. Robert Glass; Bloomfield Hills Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Operations Tina Kostiuk; Huron Valley Schools Director of Secondary Education Martin Lindberg; West Bloomfield Superintendent Gerald Hill; Troy Superintendent Dr. Richard Machesky; Birmingham Superintendent Mark Dziatczak

ABSENT: Avondale; Berkley; Clawson; Lake Orion; Rochester; South Lyon and Waterford

1. **OPENING / CALL TO ORDER** Royal Oak Superintendent Mary Beth Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

2. **BOARD ACTION & NON-ACTION ITEMS**

No action was taken due to lack of a quorum

2.1 Joint Steering Committee Minutes from March 4, 2019

Those present agreed that the minutes would be posted to website in "DRAFT" form.

2.2 Resolution Concerning Sub-committee's Recommendations and Related Matters

Dr. Robert Glass read the resolution as presented but it was not approved. Superintendent Dziatczak proposed that until the resolution is approved that the steering committee conducts business as if it has passed.

Dr. Glass then asked the steering committee members who were present for their thoughts or questions on the resolution.

Superintendent Gerald Hill suggested a seven member steering committee. He would like more information on how they would be approved. Superintendent Fitzpatrick stated that there would need to be a mechanism for non-sitting members to give input and disseminate information.

2.2 Calendar

Mary Beth Fitzpatrick read the dates but they were not approved.

September 15, 2019, Huron Valley @ 6:00 p.m.

December 16, 2019, Birmingham @ 6:00 p.m.

March 9, 2020, Bloomfield Hills @ 6:00 p.m.

June 9, 2020, Troy @ 6:00 p.m.

A suggestion was made to post and move forward with the 09/15/19 meeting as presented at which time the remaining, 2019-2020 meetings could be approved.

3. **REPORTS**

3. 1. Report of Sub-committee's study of the IA's Consortium Agreement

Attorney Robert Lusk spoke about the review of the proposed IA Consortium agreement. Mr. Lusk stated that he reviewed the current IA agreement, a similar agreement from another district and the draft proposed IA agreement to determine further areas of focus. The focus areas are:

- Determining the makeup of the steering committee: host districts, board of education members or a combination.
- How the committee would be approved: elected or appointed.
- Financial items: tuition, reimbursements.
- Personnel: should districts be the employer or IA.

Mr. Lusk also stated that he recently reached out to Nancy Costello, the Director of the MSU First Amendment Law Clinic. The Law Clinic filed a complaint notice with the Attorney General against the IA. Mr. Lusk explained that the Attorney General could do one of three things with this notice: nothing; issue an injunction; recommend prosecution.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Rebecca Riggs – A Berkley resident and IA teacher. Thanked committee for welcoming stakeholders to meetings and appreciates dialogue.
- Ken Jackson – A Bloomfield Hills parent who has read through all previous minutes. He recommends that Board of Education members be on the Steering Committee. Mr. Jackson also stated that he is distressed about the IA being involved with the private school venture in China. He urged the committee to move forward.
- Stephanie Crider – A Bloomfield Hills parent stated that originally she was going to express disappointment with IA but instead apologized for continuous failures at the IA. Stressed that work needs to be done so that the IA is a win/win for all consortium districts, currently a win/loss situation.
- Jennifer Cook – A Bloomfield Hills resident and Board of Education member. Ms. Cook stressed that all comments were personal, not as a board member. Ms. Cook stated that for the IA to be successful they needed to revisit organization, structure and governance. Disappointed that the principal was not present at tonight's meeting or at last quarter's meeting.
- Carol Finkelstein – Board of Education member and alumni parent. Ms. Finkelstein spoke about the lack of business being conducted at the IA JS meetings; tonight's meeting only has one order of business. She stated that the lack of governance is neglectful and that for all our IA students deserve engaged leadership.
- Chris Smith – IA Associate Principal stated that he would be happy to discuss data, and statistical updates for all three campuses at any time.
- Leila Owens – A recent IA graduate. Ms. Owens spoke about responsibility and taking action now, not waiting for a new agreement. She quoted the current IA agreement reinforcing responsibility.

- Keven Huong – An IA alumni. Mr. Huong stressed how important it is for the IA to focus on the mental health and well-being of the students.
- Emelia Askari – A Birmingham and IA alumni parent. Ms. Askari shared copies of the complaint filed with the Attorney General. She stated that the copies did not include the exhibits and interview backup as it was lengthy, and that she would email to the steering committee.

5. **ADJOURNMENT** Superintendent Fitzpatrick adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Fitzpatrick
Superintendent of Schools