

Inspire School of Arts & Sciences Board of Directors

Regular Session – 6:30 pm

Monday, March 10, 2025

Room IC-6

The Board of Directors (“Board”) and employees of Inspire School of Arts and Sciences shall meet on the Inspire campus at 335 W. Sacramento Ave., Chico, CA, 95926. Members of the public who wish to access this Board meeting may do so in Room IC-6.

Members of the public who wish to comment during the Board meeting may do so during the “Public Comment” section of the meeting. Individual comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. If an interpreter is needed for comments, they will be translated to English and the time limit shall be six (6) minutes. The Board of Directors may limit the total time for public comment to a reasonable time. The Board reserves the right to mute or remove a member of the public if comments or actions disrupt the Board meeting.

Access to Board Materials: A copy of the written materials which will be submitted to the School Board may be reviewed by any interested persons on the [Inspire School of Arts and Sciences Website](#) along with this agenda following the posting of the agenda at least 72 hours in advance of this meeting.

Disability Access: Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations to participate in this public meeting should be made 24 hours prior to the meeting by calling (530) 230-7758. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations. The agenda and public documents can be modified upon request as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The mission of the Inspire School of Arts and Sciences is to provide high levels of learning and support within a personalized environment that allows students to explore their interests and develop their talents.

Board Meeting Norms

1. We collectively own problems and we collectively solve them.
2. We respect time guidelines and strive to watch our own “air time.”
3. We commit to hearing all voices and we value the ideas, experiences, and perspectives of all
- 4.
5. We assume good intentions and we are polite, even when we disagree.
6. We come prepared for discussion—we do our homework.
7. We value feedback that is supported with evidence.
8. We speak up when we do not feel good about a decision before that decision is made.

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

6:30 pm

2. **Roll call of members**

Juni Banerjee-Stevens, Chris Fosen, Pat Macias, Ron Pope, Debbie Travers, Bob White, and Erin Whitney. Staff: Becky Brown, Ken Hardy, Jen Josephson, Peggy Hawks and Becca Pratt. Student: none. Public: none.

3. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

4. **Consent Calendar** **6:35 pm**
- 4.1 Consider Approval of February 10, 2025 Minutes
 - 4.2 Consider Approval of Monetary/In-Kind Donations
 - 4.3 Consider Approval of Pending Expenditures over \$5,000
 - 4.4 Consider Approval of Consulting Agreements
 - 4.5 Consider Approval of Contracts
 - 4.6 Consider Approval of Field Trips
 - 4.7 Consider Approval of Fundraising Requests
 - 4.8 Consider Approval of Monthly Check Register
 - 4.9 Consider Approval of Personnel Changes
 - 4.10 Consider Approval of PE Exemption

James Krepelka arrived 6:33 pm

Juni Banerjee-Stevens moved to approve the Consent Calendar. It was seconded by Ron Pope. Ayes: Juni Banerjee-Stevens, Chris Fosen, Pat Macias, Ron Pope, Debbie Travers, Bob White and Erin Whitney. The vote passed unanimously 7-0.

5. **Student Report** **6:40 pm**
- There was no student available.

6. **Teacher Report** **6:45 pm**
- James Krepelka shared that IPL (Inspire Professional Learning) is doing great things. During these meetings teachers can share advice and experiences. They are thinking about what makes Inspire unique and of ways to build unique programs. They are excited to be moving forward and improving. They meet monthly to talk and share notes. There is lots of good mentorship going on. They observe each other in the classroom as well.

7. **Foundation Report** **6:50 pm**
- Rose Krepelka shared that they have confirmed a new venue and theme for Neverland this year. It will be Footloose in Neverland. It will be Sept. 13th at the CARD center. They have signed a cater that costs less than our previous one. They will host their own bar with beer, wine and 2 signature cocktails. They have reduced the cost of tables. There are 180 seats, and it is a flat \$100 per seat or \$800 per table. The idea is that with decreased ticket costs there are more opportunities to bid on auction items. We already have a band and an auctioneer for this event. We need to get tickets available to purchase as soon as possible.
- They hope to engage new students' parents early on in the coming school year. We want to honor and promote the staff at this event, and put them up front. We think it is important for them to see we value them and they are important. The Foundation has invested our money in a Money Market account that has made over \$10K! We added some more of our reserves and hopefully it will continue to grow. We are waiting for the ok to do a groundbreaking ceremony at our new site, hopefully in June. For this event we want to alert the media and bring new students.

8. **Principal/Superintendent Report** **6:55 pm**
- Becky Brown shared that our recent musical Les Mis was very successful! Seeing everyone there was great press for us. It was such a positive experience for the students. Facilities are still waiting on the final subcontractor maximum cost estimates. The CUSD board will vote to approve our Charter

Renewal on Wed. We are covering every base. Becky shared that James is on our Recruitment & Retention Committee. He shared that they are focusing on retention right now. He shared that the D&D Club is doing some workshops and will advertise it. It will take place at the Boys & Girls Club. Branding is sometimes unclear, but we are set up for a quick return. We are formulating and visualizing something for students that they will announce soon. Becky is thankful that James is part of that group, and has data to back it up. She and two teachers have been invited to the Far North Ethnic Studies Presentation that will be at the end of March.

9. Discussion/Action Items

9.1 Discussion/Action Consider Approval of Second Interim Budget 7:00 pm

Jen Josephson shared where we are with our budget as of now. She used ADA of 305, and 92.03 for attendance. Our big revenue is grant CTE money. We finished CTE round 8 spending. We got the Golden State Pathways Grant of \$110K. We will use that for James' program and some dual enrollment. Other big expenses are salaries, STRS, PERS, supplemental pay, increased classroom and office supplies. We saw a deficit, but we still have a FUND balance. We know we have CTE round 10, but it is not spendable yet. As for our multi year projection, there are many unknown costs with our move, PG&E, and a new loan payment, just to name a few. We hope our ADA will be back up with an increase to 375. Erin Whitney asked about Federal funding. Jen shared she was advised to just continue as is. The Federal funding we get is minimal.

Bob White moved to approve 9.1. It was seconded by Chris Fosen. Ayes: Juni Banerjee-Stevens, Chris Fosen, Pat Macias, Ron Pope, Debbie Travers, Bob White and Erin Whitney. The vote passed unanimously 7-0.

9.2 Discussion Discuss Salary and Principal Evaluation Committee Updates 7:15 pm

Becky Brown shared that Jen has pulled in a lot of information to look at. We are looking at the documents together. We will have two separate meetings, one for classified and one for certificated staff. They will have opportunities to talk in an open forum. The representatives from those meetings will bring those questions back to the committee. Jen sent out an anonymous survey to staff to complete.

9.3 Discussion Discuss New Course Impacts 7:30 pm

Becky Brown shared she wanted to see how the staff felt about stacked courses. Bob went to a staff meeting. He shared it was a pleasure to be a part of that meeting. There was enthusiasm for the opportunity that shows up in our classrooms. If they are passionate about a subject they can drill down about it. Bob shared it was reminiscent of the types of courses they stack at Butte College. When it is offered the students get what they want. Overall the concern is, if new courses are offered, how does it impact other programs. You have to be mindful. It gets tricky to advertise classes to students. Chris asked if there are any rules to stacking we should be aware of. Becky said if we do bring back this information, it doesn't always mean we make those decisions, but we try. Ron's perspective is they lost a lot of programs to other ones in the past. How do you deal with programs that seem right, but that kids are not taking. Becky said anything is on the table. Erin wants to make sure teachers aren't being asked to do more than they can. Bob shared that maybe we can let students choose what they are interested in, and if student engagement and enrollment are good. Are we going to allow programs to go away that students aren't interested in? There are

no easy answers. Becky shared that kids are walking away from the Orchestra, and Jim has now built a Pop band class because of it.

10. **Announcements**

Pat said at MONCA they are almost ready to put out Junior Board announcements. She will send it to Becky to get the word out. Next week she'll put it out. It's a great way to be a part of the museum.

The next show at MONCA is Foster Care Awareness. There will be a day to have your family portraits done for a fee.

Bob said the whole California Community College system is going over a new numbering/naming system. They have been pushing out information. In two weeks he wants to share it with high schools.

Ken announced that he is retiring and will be working two days a week in the next school year until the end of Oct.

11. **Adjournment 7:37 pm.**