

**INDIANAPOLIS PUBLIC EDUCATION CORPORATION
BOARD MEETING**

Indianapolis-Marion County City-County Building

200 E. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN

Room 221 – 4 P.M.

April 14, 2026

Meeting Minutes

Swearing In of Board Members: Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett administered the oath of office to the following members of the Indianapolis Public Education Corporation Board: David Harris, Hope Duke Star, Ashley Thomas, Deandre Thompson, Dexter Taylor, Janet McNeal, Edward Rangel, and Patricia Castaneda.

Call to Order: Chairperson Harris called the meeting to order and provided introductory remarks, including a summary of upcoming business items. Michael O'Connor provided an overview of HEA 1515, which directed the mayor to create ILEA and charged them with making recommendations. He also discussed HEA 1423, which created the Indianapolis Public Education Corporation. Jonathan Mayes was introduced as legal counsel assisting O'Connor.

Consideration of Rules of Procedure for Board of Indianapolis Public Education Corporation: Mayes reviewed the procedures as directed by HEA 1423. The proposed rules address the electronic meeting participation policy, board officer roles, public comment policies, and recordkeeping requirements. A Motion to adopt the Rules of Procedure as presented was made by Member Castañeda, and Member Duke Star seconded the Motion. The Board approved the Motion 8-0.

Following the adoption of the Rules of Procedure, Member John Hammond joined the meeting virtually through a medium that allowed Hammond to be seen and heard by those in attendance.

Discussion of 2026 Operating Referendum: Chairperson Harris described the referendum as the most immediate item given upcoming deadlines. Mayes outlined the statutory procedure and timeline for approval of an operating referendum.

Consideration of Resolution Appointing Acting Executive Director for Indianapolis Public Education Corporation: Chairperson Harris introduced a motion to appoint Michael O'Connor as Acting Executive Director until Mayor Joe Hogsett makes his formal recommendation on Executive Director. Member Castañeda moved to appoint O'Connor as Acting Executive Director, and Member Thompson seconded the Motion. The Board approved the Motion unanimously.

Consideration of Resolution Setting Distribution Percentage and Authorizing Request for Funds: Acting Executive Director Michael O'Connor discussed the development of the IPEC website and the establishment of official email addresses. Mayes reviewed HEA 1423 guidance regarding the setting of a percentage of available property tax revenue for funding and board requests to the County Treasurer and Auditor. He explained that the statute contemplates

immediate funding, outlines funding parameters, and anticipates staffing needs related to future financial planning. Member Rangel moved to adopt Resolution Setting Distribution Percentage and Authorizing Request for Funds, and Member Thomas seconded the Motion. The Board approved the Motion unanimously.

Discussion of Working Groups for Acting Executive Director: O'Connor discussed creation of working groups on select topics including the referendum, the Executive Director hiring process, and accountability and performance standards.

Discussion of Executive Director Hiring Process: Chairperson David Harris explained that Mayor Joe Hogsett is responsible for selecting an Executive Director for recommendation and will present his selection to the IPEC Board for approval. O'Connor outlined next steps in the hiring process, noting that the position is established in statute and will be publicly posted through various channels

Discussion of Future Meeting Dates and Times: Chairperson David Harris stated that, while the IPEC Board is required by statute to meet every three months, it intends to meet more frequently in the upcoming months. Proposed meeting dates include May 28, June 22, July 21, and August 12. A motion to adopt meeting schedule passed unanimously

Motion to adjourn was adopted.



Chairperson



Secretary