

03/01/18 TMS-W Community Building Meeting

- 1) Open in prayer-- Jen Weisheim
- 2) Greeting--Kate Ambrose
 - a) Thank you for those coming, know your time is valuable and you're here because you love your kids and classical education.
 - b) Results of survey! 31 responses out of 60? emails sent out
 - i) Winner for name: Classical Studies of Indianapolis,
 - ii) Crest--stylized shield with cross
 - iii) Nickname CSIndy--yes, not all live in Indianapolis, live/ in the 9 counties in the central area + pinpoints the community looking to serve.
 - iv) Note that we will be refining things as we move forward, nothing set in stone. Some changes will be by committee set by board in charge of Marking. Our goal is to make sure people know who we are and what we do.
 - c) If want to get email updates, put on sign-up sheet, put any ones want used for future contact (OR email Kate or fill out contact form on website (<https://csindy.org/>) if not there tonight)
 - d) Why all the names similar?
 - i) Needed a name that explains who we are, to clearly communicate that we are a classical program + have a tag line to show that we are a Christian organization
 - ii) Show temporary logo
- 3) Rick and Laurie--How we got here
 - a) Loss of program director this summer started us on a change of organizational structure, board stepped up to try to fill that role.
 - b) They were presented with "Do you think you can go on your own?" After a week of prayer and struggle with decision, they looked at the growth that West has had, all the families that wanted to be involved, prayed and fasted, saw members of our own community stepping up, doors opened up and decided time to do that.
 - c) This was not anything Rick or Laurie wanted to do, it was presented to them. They prayed about it and saw God's provision with the number of people who stepped up.
 - d) Important to remember who we are--Our community honors the Lord, we have been called to love Him, educate our children and we are doing that. Goal has been to walk in love, to pray before each step.
 - e) Good to know where we've come from, learn from the past, but also important to move forward. Catch the vision and know there is nothing more our Savoir wants for our children is to be taught in His Way.
 - f) Planning Committee were the people who initially wanted to be on Board. Rick & Laurie brought them together and explained what had happened. They met and it became the Planning Committee.
- 4) Financial Update--Michael Preyss: Viability and Lease + partnership opportunities with Westside Church
 - a) Handout/Slide--short Budget P&L, key budget can be met with 130 students.
 - b) More students, even better! One page in front of you = worst case scenario! Not including more students, fund raising or other options. Very confident the Lord will provide more than 7 students to hit budget.
 - c) Facility--lease will be changed to CSIndy, Pastor Dave complimented community on how well we care for property. Our difference from others and our love for the Lord is being shown. **(Remind kids their efforts have eternal value!)** God is good, He is providing!
- 5) What is changing--Kate Ambrose
 - a) Name: CSIndy,
 - b) Board: Our community represented

- c) Meeting: M/W High school students won't have to travel & more opportunities for T/Th for college classes down the road
 - d) Set price for Electives (better for our community so we can plan and budget each year, look ahead, even with small class side)
 - e) Maybe Canvas—cost is \$5000 year, praying about the best use for our resources. Looking for best options. Give us feedback how important it is to you.
 - f) Not changing—Mission, vision, class/structure, classroom experience, Christian focus, Character Building we will do with kids, the classical model, shepherding students and loving them where they are. No change in statement of faith, in mission or vision. Curriculum isn't changing (unless small tweaks). We are going forward in faith and strength in the community we've been building for the last 6 years.
- 6) Using Technology to get input from community—Jason Sole
- a) We had a lot to do in a short time frame—email, website, branding + lots of communication
 - i) Now have email csindy@Csindy.org
 - (1) Google G Suite
 - (2) Cost, Features, Flexibility
 - ii) Website: csindy.org
 - (1) Wordpress
 - (2) Easy to update, professional look & mobile support
 - b) Name & Logo Survey 1st piece of community feedback...
 - i) Community feedback is vital, we hope to use more!
 - ii) Sets direction of the board
 - iii) Slack & Trello allows to chat/project management tool
 - c) Going forward, Board will continue to use technology with the goal to not wait for board meeting each month to deal with needed issues
 - d) More to do!
 - i) Final logo design
 - ii) Curriculum curation (to make easier to manage)
 - iii) Learning Management Systems (Canvas)
 - iv) Registration System
 - v) Lots of communication
 - vi) All being handed to the Board of Dir.
- 7) Board & Voting—Joel Gibbons
- a) Purpose of the Board—to oversee org. on a broad level, to make sure we stay on mission (not “in the weeds” manage or act as program director/manager of staff), support Head of School, responsible for finances of organization & Community is supported.
 - b) Why moving so fast?
 - i) Must have to file for 501c3 status—needed to take donations/operate financially, and to have a bank account
 - ii) Right now, we are an organization with no leadership/guidance + hire head of school (and she gets teachers) + sign lease
 - iii) Expectations for Board—monthly meetings + be involved in the community. Pray over staff & students, community, over decisions to be made.
 - c) Other options! Serve on committee—Forming several to help manage smaller issues
 - i) Policy
 - ii) Curriculum
 - iii) Marketing
 - iv) Clubs/Extra Activities
 - v) If interested, go to website, fill out contact link & let us know!

- d) Board process is unique this year. First will need to ratify bylaws. Using TMS Bylaws as a template, goal was to change as little as possible until Board in place.
- e) Nominations opened up, fill out and will be open through tomorrow night. Tonight will post listing of those who have shown interest will be there w/ 2 paragraphs about experience and why he or she wants to be on the Board.
- f) Voting will be Saturday-Tuesday.
- g) Goal is to announce new board end of Day Thursday, Mar 8.
- h) Voting Process
 - i) 1 vote/family via electronic ballot
 - ii) If 15 or fewer nominations, single slate with up/down vote, if more than 15, vote for individual candidates
 - iii) Jen & Chris Weisheim will serve as impartial contact if you have concerns with a nominee (email will be on ballot)
 - iv) Voting ends Tuesday, March 6th and results announced Thursday, March 8th

8) High School/Extras – Tina Miles

- a) High School is happening MW, Excited already starting to find excellent staff members, have applicants that teach college or former High schooler teachers. We are very exciting with the number and quality we already are seeing come in.
- b) Capped electives costs, budget includes this number
 - c. Preliminary Electives
 - i. Transitional math, Pre-Alg, Alg, Geometry, Algebra 2*
 - ii. Biology* & Chemistry
 - iii. Art Club, Government, Drama Club, Speech & Debate Club*, Study Hall
 - iv. Watch for a survey coming out this week! Please select what you plan to take
*Based on student interest/need this next year
 - d. Both Ivy Tech and IUPUI have shown interest in partnering with us for dual credit, and we are open to exploring other options (such as IWU)
 - e. Working to find a HS Guidance Counselor, a mom who's graduated kids from High School, to be willing partner with our families to guide *If you know someone, let us know!
 - f. Anna Diaz & I going to have once a month social time for HS events/social time & invite the TMS North kids to join us
 - g. We will have a High School Meeting in March 29, 7-9. Location TBD

9) Kate: We are an amazing community that work together, we don't want to lose that!

- a. Using Wednesday for the whole community
- b. Considering clubs for both lower & high schools
 - a. Art club/Specialized classes
 - b. PE for LG & UG
 - c. Chess Club
 - d. Math games
 - e. Speech & Debate team
 - f. Student Government (Student rep to the board)
 - g. Yearbook
 - h. Drama
- c. Yes, nothing changing, but we have many options opening up! If you are interested or have other ideas! Use contact form on the website or use email.
 - a. Survey for electives will go out to whole school.
 - b. If enough demand, we will do them!
- d. Open up electives outside of community
 - a. everyone will have to sign statement of faith, abide by rules and wear uniform.
 - b. Way to reach out community, help others, and help cost of school

- e. Monthly Family Community activities—a joy in spending time with other families who share their values, great for parents to have friends doing life together
 - a. Skate night
 - b. Bonfire
 - c. Dances
 - d. Game nights, etc.
- f. Uniform flexibility—still have one, but a bit more flexibility (Not require crest at older levels—but this will be decided by Policy Committee)

10) Q&A

- a) Thanks for clarity of budget. Do we have any capped classes? (Only incoming 5th grade class, all other classes have openings. Very excited about the number of people visiting, 60 kids represented at the Open Houses so far.)
- b) Social time coming up now—The Great Race! April 28th, all day
- c) Talked more about Cavnas, \$40/year per student. Reminded that many high schools and colleges use, so it helps the transition for HS students, plus we see how it is set up to help us (used by so many can update easily). Reminded that we are seeing amazing to see how God is providing and will continue to provide.
- d) Encourage Board to form a Barnabas group, to pray before the community.
- e) Is there a possibility to have Math & Science as part of the core for High School? Board decision, but we'd like to consider that going forward. Can't do it this year because already registered for one thing.
- f) Interest of full disclosure from Michael Preyss, lease will go up if we have more in the building on Wednesday, to help cover wear & tear on the building and utilities.
- g) Changed date for registration, did we change fee? Some may have paid \$99, email said \$79**IF you had that issue, contact Laurie Carter or Lara Panola!
- h) Question about Zelle vs. Clear Exchange—if can't use Zelle, contact Laura Panola, there are other ways.
- i) Michael Preyss asked, "Is there appetite for auto withdraw for payments next year?" There was a rather vocal "YES!"
- j) Can kids wear uniform with TMS crest next year? Yes! As long as wearing uniform, we will offer grace
- k) Budget, calendar vs. school year? July to June wrap, so school year.
- l) When do we switch? Officially July 1st change over. Will be operating under our new board
- m) Class size number was stated as 16—is that KG-12? KG may be lower, need to go back and look