APPROVED

Spokane International Academy

Minutes

Monthly Board Meeting

January

Date and Time
Wednesday January 28, 2026 at 4:30 PM

Location
Spokane International Academy, Media Center
777 E Magnesium Rd. Spokane, WA 99208

Directors Present
Ashlee Lent (remote), Cassie Anderson, Charina Carothers (remote), David James (remote), Guillermo Espinosa (remote), Javier Medina (remote), Maureen Rosette (remote), Ron Poplawski

Directors Absent
John Pell

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned
Guillermo Espinosa

Guests Present
Brandon Harrison, Harlows, Caryn McGee, Darcelina Soloria (remote), Elisabeth Kraus, Evelyn Caine, Jonathan Houston (remote), Kaye Schaich, Harlows, Maya Rimpela, Morgen Flowers-Washington, Mrs. Gilead (remote), Myra Keast, Paige Warnick (remote), Payton Draeder, Sam Schweda, Spencer Grainger

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Cassie Anderson called a meeting of the board of directors of Spokane International Academy to order on Wednesday Jan 28, 2026 at 4:35 PM.

II. Consent Agenda

A. December Minutes

Ron Poplawski made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Board Meeting on 12-17-25.
Maureen Rosette seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. December Financials

C. Policy 5011/5011P - Sexual Harassment of District Staff Prohibited

D. Policy 6220/6220P - Bid or Request for Proposal Requirements

E. Policy 2108 - Learning Assistance Program

F. Hi-Cap District Plan

G. Petty Cash Resolution

H. Approve Consent Agenda Items

Ron Poplawski made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.
Maureen Rosette seconded the motion.
The Board suggests highlighting changes or updates on policies, moving forward.

All policies can be found in the Governance page of the school website.

Petty Cash Resolution is the only new policy presented today.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Public Comment

A. Harlows

Brandon Harrison, Harlows Location Manager and colleague, Kaye Schaich attended today's meeting. They provided a year-to-date report and showed appreciation to the Board for Board Appreciation Month.

- 27,000 miles driven since the beginning of the school year
- Zero accidents
- Communication regarding students' behavior handled by Russ Battiata, SIA Operations Director

IV. Dress Code/Hair Policy

A. Proposed Revision

ASB President, Payton Drader and Secretary, Evelyn Caine presented. Their attendance at today's meeting is to report on additional information requested by the Board at the December meeting. They gathered data by visiting the other schools' websites, specifically their handbooks.

Reference: Policy on Hair Color

- Data from other WA Charter Schools
- Data sampling from Private Schools
- Data sampling from Public Schools

The Board prefers the language given as Option B:
"Students, grades 6-12, may dye their hair at their legal guardian’s discretion, so long as hair is clean, neat and not a distraction to the learning environment.”

Cassie Anderson recommends for the board to vote for policy change for Grades 6-12 only; Morgen Flowers will finalize the verbiage and present it at the February meeting as part of the Consent Agenda.
Maureen Rosette made a motion to approve the revisions to the Dress Code Policy pertaining to the Hair policy.
Javier Medina seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. 2026-2027 School Calendar

A. Board to Vote on Calendar

Morgen Flowers-Washington, Head of School presented.

As a result of staff and school families votes, two proposed calendars for the 2026-2027 school year are presented to the Board.

- Traditional

- Balanced Calendar (Version 3)

The school administration reviewed calendars from neighboring districts and found that most, if not all, are transitioning to a Balanced Calendar for the next school year. SIA intends to align with this shift to better support families, particularly those with children enrolled in multiple districts, and help reduce scheduling challenges.

Per Sam Schweda, there is no major impact on budget anticipated due to switching to a balanced calendar.

Morgen does not recommend postponing implementation of the Balanced Calendar to the 2027–28 school year, as most surrounding districts are adopting this model in the upcoming year. A delay may also negatively affect enrollment. The administration supports implementation of the Balanced Calendar in alignment with the preferences expressed by school staff and families.

Maureen Rosette made a motion to Adopt the Balanced Calendar for the 2026-2027 School Year.
Charina Carothers seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. MAP

A. MAP Update

Caryn McGee, Director of Curriculum and Instruction presented.

Winter MAP was conducted as mid-year "pulse check" to see how students are progressing toward their end-of-year MAP goals. The primary focus was on students who started the school year below grade level (bottom 40th percentile) to ensure they are getting the support they need. The target is 50% of those students will meet their RIT goals.

Notable:

- School is on tract based on winter scores in ELA and Math
- Students in bottom 40th percentile are on track for Spring RIT goal
- 10th grade students in the target group also showed strong progress, with 67% meeting their projected growth.
- 83% of third grade students in the target group met their growth goals in Math
- 80% of fifth grade students in the target group reached their growth goals in Math

- Next steps will be to provide more targeted one-on-one support and intervention for Middle School and High School students, such as after-school tutoring and/or study hall classes

Guillermo Espinosa left.

VII. Head of School Report

A. January Report

- Planning for the 8th Grade International Trip for the year 2027 has begun. Panama and Spain are the choices for the trip. Parents mostly voted for Panama.
- High school planning is underway. Students will either attend Running Start or NewTech Skills Center. SIA will make sure students have college-ready transcriipts.
- Big focus at the moment is enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year.
    - 143 application received as of this date
    - Marketing packets for high school were mailed to nearby middle schools inviting counselors to attend Preview Day
    - Tours and Information Nights
    - Advertising in print media: Inlander Restaurant Week, The Fig, The Black Lens
    - Marketing packets for Elementary were also delivered to nearby preschools, targeting Kindergarten-age
    - School presence at local events: MLK, Jr. Day and upcoming Lunar New Year celebration at the convention center

VIII. Governance

A. Board Committees Presentation

Morgen Flowers-Washington and Javier Median met with former Board member and Foundation's Chair, Matt Hoag. Matt Hoag will continue with his role as Committee Chair for another year.

The Foundation holds the funds used for student travel. Non-board members can be a part of the foundation.

Board suggestions:

- Board's financial commitment can go to the foundation, but will need consent. Table to a future discussion. Morgen will also reach out to board members individually.
- Invite CAT members to be part of the Foundation; perhaps invite the CAT to a future board meeting

B. Board Requirements and Training

This is a reminder for members who have not completed their training and have not submitted the Public Disclosure Form. Please submit them to Myra Keast.

C. Board Member Recruitment

Potential candidate, Jeffrey Thompson, withdrew his interest to join the Board.

The Board will continue its effort to grow the Board membership.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cassie Anderson

Documents used during the meeting

None