



Ina A. Colen Academy
Board of Managers Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 21st, 2025 - 6:00 pm
Held at
On Top of the World Communities
Cypress Hall
8413 SW 80th Street
Ocala, FL 34481

VISION

Ina A. Colen Academy will educate the hearts and minds of students and families in an environment where everyone belongs, works together, and thrives.

MISSION

To cultivate passionate learners in an inclusive school community in which individuality and diversity are valued and students develop understanding and empathy for others through collaboration and active learning.

ATTENDEES: Vanessa Baxley, Robert Colen, Janet Behnke, Dr. Harvey Taub, Roseann Fricks-Patterson, Rebecca Rogers, Ken Colen, Jim Walkup, Dr. Nijher, via Zoom: Autumn Barfield, Lily Hutchinson, Tabitha Jones, Cindy Korth
Guests: Kimberlee Hayward, Angela Swain, Gemma Fleming,
Public Comments: Susan DeMar

1. Call to Order – Dr. Harvey Taub called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
2. All 5 board members were present. The board meeting was properly noticed.
3. Public Comment - Public comment is limited to 3 minutes.
Susan DeMar, recently retired teacher from Ina A. Colen Academy (IACA), asked the board to consider expanding eligibility to include retirees in good standing to be able to receive recognition funds.
Board will take this request into consideration.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2025
 - b. Out of field assignments 2025-26
 - c. Vendor contracts
 - d. *Motion to approve consent agenda as presented.* Robert Colen moved to approve, Janet Behnke seconded.
5. Reports
 - a. Facilities – Jim Walkup
 - Update on the HVAC system at IACA was presented by Mr. Walkup. Since the warranties have expired, \$106,587 has been spent on HVAC repairs. Mr. Walkup is reaching out to a Lennox executive representative to get a resolution. Different vendors are being considered to get the HVAC systems repaired quickly and at the least cost. Credit from Lennox for future repairs will be requested.
 - b. Finance – Tabitha Jones
 - Ms. Jones reviewed the Financial Report for September 2025.
 - Monies from the local referendum for July through October will be coming this Friday.
 - LCIR memo comes out in January.
 - Some of the expenses for July through September include new software and chrome books. 80% of the budget is remaining. The budget is on track.
 - \$300,000 was moved from the checking account to a money market account.
 - c. Audit - Autumn Barfield
 - The audit of the Financial Statement of Ina A. Colen Academy, LLC, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, was conducted by CS & L, CPAs. They reported a clean audit with solid internal control.
Motion to approve audit as presented. Dr. Taub moved to approve, Roseann Fricks-Patterson seconded.

d. Principal – Principal Baxley

- Welcome to Jasmin Thomas Dickey, newly hired Dean of Students at IACA.
- Current enrollment is 581 students. New Students total 134; 96 from Calesa and 38 are non-Calesa. Lottery has 750 applicants for the 2025-26 school year. Lottery closes Monday, November 3rd. Lottery for 2026-27 school year will open Monday, November 10th at 8am and close on Friday, January 30, 2026, at 3pm.
- Campus events:
 - Annual Book Fair on September 9th. Total sales of \$10,740; \$6,000 spent in Scholastic Dollars for books for IACA Book Nook libraries.
 - Hispanic Heritage Month was celebrated October 13-16.
 - Middle School students who are in Career Research took a field trip to College of Central Florida.
 - IACA leadership attended the annual Florida Consortium and Public Charter Schools Conference that was held October 14-16.
 - The Fall Festival will be held on October 24.
 - Red Ribbon Week to promote “say NO to drugs” and promote kindness will be held the last week of October.

e. Vice Principal - Angela Swain

- Ms. Swain reviewed the testing data results from the State Progressive Monitoring Testing (PM1) that was completed in September. The data was for the past two years and part of 2025-2026. Enrichment and special attention will be provided for the students that have declined in percentages or have risen in percentages.
 - Math by Grade Level- Year over Year
 - Math Data by COHORT of Students – Year over Year
 - Reading Data by COHORT of Students – Year over Year
 - English Language Arts by Grade Level – Year over Year

f. Vice Principal – Kimberlee Hayward

- Ms. Hayward reviewed the implementation of Professional Learning Communities for grade level teachers to collaborate and focus on continuous improvement.
- The Walkthrough Tool with the Teacher Observation Tool was adopted last school year.
- The Aftercare Program currently has 148 students. The program is growing and there currently is one open position to be filled.

g. Guidance Counselor - Gemma Fleming

- Ms. Fleming explained how a new emotional curriculum, The Cloud9World, is being implemented at IACA. This is a school-wide, Social Emotional Learning framework. Each month focuses on a core character trait. Books, discussions, and classroom activities reinforce the same theme schoolwide.

6. New Business

a. Campus Safety Measures - Principal Baxley

- IACA will be implementing an electronic dismissal system.
- IACA and Calesa Safety and Development team have developed plans for student safety:
 - Sidewalk safety.
 - Students under 16 years old must wear a helmet.
 - Exiting the school tunnel for Calesa only.
 - Stripes added to tunnel for two clear lanes.
 - Placement of school zone signs.
 - Communication with students and family regarding bike safety laws and expectations.

b. PIP (Parents in Parliament) & Committee Expectations - Principal Baxley

The mission of the committee is to encourage parents to engage and volunteer in school programs, unit in a common goal of supporting IACA students and their teachers.

c. Updated Policies - Principal Baxley

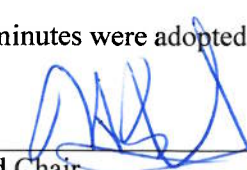
1. Baker Act
2. School Safety
3. Protection of Student Information

d. *Motion to approve policies as presented.* Robert Colen moved to approve, Janet Behnke seconded.

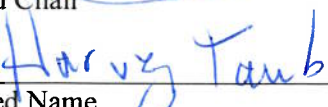
7. Roundtable Discussion – The Board thanked the presenters for such a detailed and informative discussion.
8. Adjourn – [Next Meeting February 17, 2026, at 6:00 pm](#)

Board Packet:
Agenda, Documents

The minutes were adopted by the Board of Managers at a publicly noticed meeting held on Tuesday, February 17th, 2026.



Board Chair



Printed Name



Date

17 - February - 2026