Inspire Academy Board of Directors
January 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Members Present:	Ms. Yvonne Thompson, Chair Dr. Justin Whitt, Vice-Chair Mr. Todd Roark, Treasurer (6:10pm) Mr. Nate Howard, Secretary Mr. Jake Brandau Ms. Lesley Spencer
Members Absent:	Ms. Melanie Turner
Staff Present:	Ms. Leslie Draper Mr. Bryan Hair
Non-Staff Present:	Ms. Caitlin Hicks

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Thompson at 6:04pm.

Board Introductions

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Motion: To approve the January 2025 agenda.
    - Made by: Director Whitt
    - Seconded by: Director Roark
    - Motion carried.

- Motion: To approve the December 2025 meeting minutes.
    - Made by: Director Whitt
    - Seconded by: Director Roark
    - Motion carried.

Trine Board Presentation

- Caitlin Hicks presented the Trine performance update in person.

Public Comment

- No public comments were offered.

Principal's Report (Bryan Hair)

- Culture of Quality: Exhibition Night was held, providing students an opportunity to publicly share their work.
- Systems Management: Report cards were distributed. Families were reminded to keep contact information updated. Principal Hair is gaining familiarity with school nutrition operations.
- Budget/Finances: The school continues to monitor spending to remain within budget, with attention to fieldwork and monthly teacher supply costs.
- Family Engagement: Exhibition Night included conversations with families about strengthening parent–school partnerships and improving communication and information sharing.
- Discipline/Habits for Success: Teachers will implement structured Crew lesson plans focused on intentional social-emotional learning.
- Personnel/Professional Development: Winter Institute professional development was conducted.
- Curriculum & Programs: Tutoring by Indiana Academy students will begin January 13, 2026. A reading program with local Muncie seniors is getting ready to begin for selected students.
- Instruction: Instructional routines are being reviewed to improve lesson timing, pacing, and task execution.
- Assessment & Accountability: Documentation of released test questions is being developed to support test preparation.
- Testing: IREAD and ILEARN testing windows were shared.

Monthly Primary Strategy Focus

- Discussion about Academic Performance, facilitated by Directors Whitt and Spencer.
    - Emphasis on strategies to improve instructional quality scores, with the goal of positively impacting IREAD and ILEARN outcomes.

Monthly Brief Strategy Updates

- Brief update about Board Development from Director Thompson.
    - Reminder to do board development modules.

- Brief update about Advocacy & Fund Development from Directors Roark and Howard.
    - New bank sponsorships leads shared.

Other Business

- Consideration of Board Candidate
    - Dr. Olufowote, Director of Academic Affairs at the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities, shared about who he is, his qualifications and his motivations for serving on Inspire Board of Directors.
    - Motion: To invite Dr. Olufowote to the Inspire Board of Directors
    - Made by: Director Roark
    - Seconded by: Director Spencer
    - Motion carried.

- Gala Planning
    - Director Howard facilitated a planning session about the upcoming Spring Gala

- Admissions Policy Timeline Update
    - Motion: To move enrollment period to February
    - Made by: Director Spencer
    - Seconded by: Director Roark
    - Motion carried.

Receipt of Financial Manager's Report

- Financial update will be shared via email with Board Members.
- November 2025 AP voucher will be reviewed at February Board meeting.

Privilege of the floor was granted to Dr. Joel Olufowote to share about his interest in joining the Inspire Academy Board.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 by Chair Thompson with approval of the board.