**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, May 11, 2009**  
**ISM Library**  
1720 Yosemite Street, Seaside, CA 93955

### 6:00-6:05  1. OPEN SESSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>1.1. Call to order and roll call</td>
<td>Lauren Cohen (LC), Valerie Josephson (VJ), Christine Reed (CR), John Tilley (JT), Plasha Fielding Will (PW), Paul Gaucher (PG), Bobbie Infelise (BI), Robert Lee (RL), Sean Madden (SM), Sunder Ramaswamy (SR), Alastair Rodd (AR), Joanne Storkan (JS), Chris Steinbruner (CS), Eric Pearlstein (EP)</td>
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**6:02** 1.2. Academic presentation—Advocacy Day students

**6:10** 1.3. Public comment on closed session agenda items

The public may comment on closed session agenda items listed. The Board may not respond except to ask clarifying questions. The length of comments may be limited to 3 minutes by the Chair and total time allotted to closed agenda items will be 10 minutes.

### 6:11-7:06  2. CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with Government Code, Sections 54950 - 54962, the Board must disclose the items to be discussed in closed session. This may be done by referring to the closed session agenda items as listed on the closed session agenda or by number on the agenda. After closed session, the Board shall report out actions taken in closed session as required by law, including members' vote and abstention.

**6:11** 2.1. Public appointment—International School of Monterey Board of Trustees

**6:15** 2.2. Public employment—2009-2010 administrative staff; 2009-2010 teaching staff

**7:06** 2.3. Conference with real property negotiators—Property: 1720 Yosemite Street, Seaside; Negotiator: Sean Madden; Negotiating Parties: ISM, MPUSD; Under Negotiation: 2009-2010 site and space allocation

### 7:06-8:00  3. OPEN SESSION

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<td>7:06</td>
<td>3.1. Call to order and roll call</td>
<td>Lauren Cohen (LC), Valerie Josephson (VJ), Christine Reed (CR), John Tilley (JT), Plasha Fielding Will (PW), Paul Gaucher (PG), Bobbie Infelise (BI), Robert Lee (RL), Sean Madden (SM), Sunder Ramaswamy (SR), Alastair Rodd (AR), Joanne Storkan (JS), Chris Steinbruner (CS), Eric Pearlstein (EP)</td>
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**7:02** 3.2. Report of action taken in closed session

None

Board exercised option to extend closed session at end of open session

**7:05** 3.3. Hearings and petitions

The public may comment on items within the Board’s jurisdiction but not on the agenda. The Board may not respond except to ask clarifying questions. The length of comments may be limited to 3 minutes by the Chair and total time allotted to non-agenda items will be 10 minutes. The public may comment on agenda items at the time each item is considered by the Board with 10 minutes allotted per item.

Marilyn Parmely: Will Board continue to freeze non-ISM fundraisers

SM: Yes. As part of the overall financial review, Board will continue to propose that fundraisers for non-ISM activities/causes be frozen. Fieldtrips will continue to be monitored for cost and curricular compliance.

**7:15** 3.4. Consent

**3.4.1. Approval of minutes from April 13 meeting with corrections**

Moved PG; Second CS; 11 Approved; 1 Abstained

**7:20** 3.5. Correspondence

**7:25** 3.6. Action items

**3.6.1. Approve 2009-2010 budget**

Moved CS. Second RL. Approved Unanimously

CS: Conservative Revenues; End with a reserve of about $100,000
PG: Cut operating expenses; freeze staffing lines
EP: Textbook and workbook money has been cut; capital investments have been cut
AR: Have not budgeted for items that were not expended this year (operating costs such as legal fees). Cut to minimum
PG: Appreciates that teachers and staff are still here and working under difficult circumstances
JT: Estimate of the costs of staff benefits. Are the numbers accurate
LW: We have used 10% projection rather than 12%
3.6.2. Increase K-3 enrollment
Lisa Bennet: Refers to the practice of the Board splitting funds between the School and the Foundation. Requests that Board members move toward focusing donations to the Foundation alone

Maren Dinsmore: Representing the teachers. Class size increase will adversely affect the quality of instruction. Small school and small class size lead to success. Teachers would like more information and to serve on a Committee to discuss the situation. Teachers have already provided feedback through two meetings, including the assumption as to how teachers might respond. They do not believe that an additional teaching aid will redress the loss in instructional quality

Lisa Burns: emphasizes the impact of increased class size on space. Incoming families tend to say small class size is one of the most important reasons for selecting ISM

Lorraine Williby: Distributes article with discussion of additional revenue cuts of up to $600/student

Mike Whilden: Fourth Grade integration issue: new students have not been exposed to ISM curriculum and Spanish. This is unfair to students and to teachers. Option 1: Increase students to 25; Option 2 have 3 classes of 20 and have two classes of 25 at Grade 4 through attrition. Class size reduction rules means that we will not be penalized and save $130,000. And we get revenue from additional students. MPUSD has increased their class size, so this is a political opportunity. But it is also fiscally responsible. We can not choose option 2 because we do not have the physical space and we would need to hire additional teachers.

Maren Dinsmore: Staff can be better prepared to assess new 4th grade students to better meet their needs.

SM: Would like to create a task force with representatives from teachers, Board members and community. Not a simple solution. Could be a stepped approach, etc.

PG: What are we trying to solve? For PG it is the integration of the new students in 4th grade. And is class size increase the solution?

SM: (i) impact at Grade 4; (ii) financial benefits;

JS: Agrees with 20:1 ratio. But we need to look at financial sustainability of the school

SM: Permanent or temporary change; academic impact vs financial impact is not a clear cut.

CR: reading specialist is not enough to offset the impact of increased class size. So what would be enough?

PW: request participation of 4th grade teacher

PG: track the progress of the new 4th Grade students – where are they in the academic program. Does the gap with their peers close or does it remain constant or deteriorate?

SM: Conclusion: a task force will be created to review the issue and propose action(s)

7:55 3.7. Information/discussion items

3.7.1. Administration reports

3.7.2. Board committee reports
Foundation Report: $338,000 total by end of year; highest participation ever at 82%.

Discussion around the issue of Board of Trustees versus ISM Foundation responsibility for setting Family Share levels. This decision needs to be the ISM Foundation – but the meeting has to be publically announced. Need to separate responsibility of Board of Trustees from ISM Foundation for auditing purposes.

8:25 3.8. New business
None

8:35 4. POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION

8.35 4.1. Call to order and roll call

Ex officio:

Eric Pearlstein (EP)

Paul Gaucher (PG)

Bobbie Infelise (BI)

Sunder Ramaswamy (SR)

Sean Madden (SM)

Joanne Storkan (JS)

Chris Steinbruner (CS)

Robert Lee (RL)

Valerie Josephson (VJ)

Lauren Cohen (LC)

Plasha Fielding Will (PW)

Alastair Rodd (AR)

Christine Reed (CR)

John Tilley (JT)

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8:35 4.1. Call to order and roll call

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<td>9.20</td>
<td>3.2. Report of action taken in closed session</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.25</td>
<td>Motion to adjourn.</td>
<td>PW moved. Approved unanimously.</td>
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