



**International Academy Joint Steering Committee  
Notice of Meeting and Agenda  
July 31, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.**

# **NOTICE OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Please take notice that there will be a meeting of the International Academy Joint Steering Committee:

**Wednesday, July 31, 2019**

**3:00 p.m.**

Meeting is open to the public

Location of Meeting:

**7273 Wing Lake Rd, Bloomfield Hills 48301  
Rooms A, B & C**

The agenda for this meeting is located at

<https://www.iatoday.org/about-us/consortium-districts>

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Meeting Minutes are Located at:

The main office of the International Academy located at 1020 E. Square Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304 and available online at:

<https://www.iatoday.org/about-us/consortium-districts>

If you have a disability requiring a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service, please call the Office of the Principal at 248-341-5900 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible.



**International Academy Joint Steering Committee  
Notice of Meeting and Agenda  
July 31, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.**

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are as listed below:

1. Call to Order
2. Approve Joint Steering Committee Minutes from March 4, 2019
3. Approve Joint Steering Committee Minutes from June 3, 2019
4. Resolution Concerning Subcommittee's Recommendation and Related Matters
5. Approval of 2019-20 Joint Steering Committee Meeting Dates and Locations
6. Review of IA Budgets for 2019-20
7. Discussion of Role/Responsibilities of Joint Steering Committee Members
8. Public Participation
9. Adjournment

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**INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY  
JOINT STEERING COMMITTEE**

**COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 4, 2019  
6:00 PM**

**LOCATION: IA - EAST CAMPUS  
1291 TORPEY DRIVE  
TROY, MI 48083**

**IA CONSORTIUM DISTRICTS**

Avondale	Rochester
Berkley	Royal Oak
Birmingham	South Lyon
Bloomfield Hills	Troy
Clawson	Waterford
Huron Valley	West Bloomfield
Lake Orion	

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Troy Schools Superintendent Dr. Richard Machesky, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Committee members present were Bloomfield Hills Superintendent Dr. Robert Glass, Clawson Schools Superintendent Tim Wilson, Huron Valley Schools Director of Secondary Education Martin Lindberg, Royal Oak Superintendent Mary Beth Fitzpatrick, South Lyon East High School Principal Karen Fisher, and West Bloomfield Superintendent Gerald Hill. Representatives from Avondale, Berkley, Birmingham, Lake Orion, Rochester, and Waterford school districts were not in attendance. Also present were IA-East Associate Principal Ryan Brinks, IA-West Associate Principal Ryan Parrott, and Ms. Kerry Birmingham, Director of Communications and Strategic Initiatives of the Troy School District. There were approximately 20 members of the audience.

Dr. Machesky announced that Superintendent Fitzpatrick had a prior commitment and would need to leave the meeting by 6:45 p.m. this evening. He indicated that the public communication portion of the meeting may need to be suspended but would continue following consideration of the resolution concerning the International Consortium

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1) David Lyons, resident of West Bloomfield, 20-year physics teacher at the International Academy, thanked the Steering Committee for holding open meetings in the evening so that teachers are able to participate. He indicated that advance notice for future meetings be shared with staff members would be appreciated.

Dr. Machesky communicated that subsequent meetings would be posted on the website.

2) Steve Eschrich, resident of Bloomfield Hills, spoke about the International Academy and its relationship with its sister school overseas in Qingdao, China. He asked for support from the IA Joint Steering Committee to look into the Revised School Code on Conflict of Interest and the financial promises made with the involved parties. He provided a copy of the Revised School Code excerpt pertaining to Conflict of Interest.

3) Nancy Costello, representative of the MSU First Amendment Law Clinic, spoke about FOIA issues with the International Academy (IA) and Joint Steering Committee (JSC). She thanked the committee for holding open meetings and talked about the governance structure of the JSC for the IA suggesting that elected school board members sit on the committee as voting members and superintendents be ex-officios for meetings to avoid employment issues.

4) Emilia Askari, parent of IA graduates, spoke about the future structure of the IA Joint Steering Committee and suggested it would be ideal to have 1 – 2 alumni representatives on the committee. She referenced a letter from Ms. Gibson's attorney, which was published in the Detroit News and inquired if the IA had an attorney separate from Bloomfield Hills. She indicated that she submitted FOIA requests to school districts in the consortium and had shared documents with several boards at recent school board meetings.

Dr. Machesky indicated that all members of the Joint Steering Committee would receive the documents that

Ms. Askari handed out during Troy's last board meeting.

5) Stephanie Crider, resident of West Bloomfield, thanked the committee for opening their meeting to the public and shared that she has a student new to West Bloomfield and a student in Bloomfield Hills. She requested that the committee attempt to be more transparent and to invite students, parents and staff to meetings. She asked the committee to dig deep into the documents they have been provided with.

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING  
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY  
CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT**

Dr. Machesky shared that the Joint Steering Committee was being asked to consider a resolution for the International Academy Consortium Agreement and asked for a motion.

It was moved by Mary Beth Fitzpatrick and supported by Dr. Gerald Hill that

**WHEREAS**, the International Academy has received questions and comments concerning the conduct its business in conformity with certain laws and constitutional provisions;

**IT IS RESOLVED:** The International Academy Joint Steering Committee (JSC) hereby appoints a subcommittee consisting of the three Superintendents of the constituent school districts in which International Academy campuses are located (Bloomfield Hills, Troy and Huron Valley), or their designees, and three Superintendents from other constituent school districts, or their designees;

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED:** This subgroup will study the International Academy Consortium Agreement with the assistance of legal counsel and recommended such amendments to the Consortium Agreement as may be necessary to address questions and comments concerning compliance with certain laws and constitutional provisions;

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED:** This subgroup will endeavor, if practicable, to present its recommendations at the next

meeting of the JSC, currently scheduled for June 3, 2019, and, upon approval by the JSC, submit an amended Consortium Agreement to its constituent school districts for review and approval by their Boards of Education.

Yes: 7

No: 0

Resolution Passed.

Dr. Glass and Dr. Machesky talked about discussing this further and bringing back a more complete draft after listening to suggestions and making any necessary adjustments.

Dr. Machesky announced that the next committee meeting would be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Royal Oak Schools Administration Building located at 800 Devillen Avenue and will be published on the website so that everyone is aware of the meeting.

It was moved by Dr. Glass and supported by Mr. Wilson that the meeting be adjourned.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard M. Machesky, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

RM/jh



**International Academy Joint Steering Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
June 3, 2019 at 6:00 PM**

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**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Royal Oak Superintendent Mary Beth Fitzpatrick; Bloomfield Hills Superintendent Dr. Robert Glass; Bloomfield Hills Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Operations Tina Kostiuk; Huron Valley Schools Director of Secondary Education Martin Lindberg; West Bloomfield Superintendent Gerald Hill; Troy Superintendent Dr. Richard Machesky; Birmingham Superintendent Mark Dziatczak

**ABSENT:** Avondale; Berkley; Clawson; Lake Orion; Rochester; South Lyon and Waterford

1. **OPENING / CALL TO ORDER** Royal Oak Superintendent Mary Beth Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. Meeting location: Royal Oak Schools, 800 Devillen, Royal Oak, MI 48073 in the Main Conference Room

2. **BOARD ACTION & NON-ACTION ITEMS**

No action was taken due to lack of a quorum

2.1 Joint Steering Committee Minutes from March 4, 2019

Those present agreed that the minutes would be posted to website in "DRAFT" form.

2.2 Resolution Concerning Sub-committee's Recommendations and Related Matters

Dr. Robert Glass read the resolution as presented but it was not approved. Superintendent Dziatczak proposed that until the resolution is approved that the steering committee conducts business as if it has passed.

Dr. Glass then asked the steering committee members who were present for their thoughts or questions on the resolution.

Superintendent Gerald Hill suggested a seven member steering committee. He would like more information on how they would be approved. Superintendent Fitzpatrick stated that there would need to be a mechanism for non-sitting members to give input and disseminate information.

2.2 Calendar

Mary Beth Fitzpatrick read the dates but they were not approved.

September 15, 2019, Huron Valley @ 6:00 p.m.

December 16, 2019, Birmingham @ 6:00 p.m.

March 9, 2020, Bloomfield Hills @ 6:00 p.m.

June 9, 2020, Troy @ 6:00 p.m.

A suggestion was made to post and move forward with the 09/15/19 meeting as presented at which time the remaining, 2019-2020 meetings could be approved.



International Academy Joint Steering Committee  
Meeting Minutes, continued  
June 3, 2019 at 6:00 PM

### 3. REPORTS

3. 1. Report of Sub-committee's study of the IA's Consortium Agreement
- Attorney Robert Lusk spoke about the review of the proposed IA Consortium agreement. Mr. Lusk stated that he reviewed the current IA agreement, a similar agreement from another district and the draft proposed IA agreement to determine further areas of focus. The focus areas are:
- Determining the makeup of the steering committee: host districts, board of education members or a combination.
  - How the committee would be approved: elected or appointed.
  - Financial items: tuition, reimbursements.
  - Personnel: should districts be the employer or IA.

Mr. Lusk also stated that he recently reached out to Nancy Costello, the Director of the MSU First Amendment Law Clinic. The Law Clinic filed a complaint notice with the Attorney General against the IA. Mr. Lusk explained that the Attorney General could do one of three things with this notice: nothing; issue an injunction; recommend prosecution.

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Rebecca Riggs – A Berkley resident and IA teacher. Thanked committee for welcoming stakeholders to meetings and appreciates dialogue.
- Ken Jackson – A Bloomfield Hills parent who has read through all previous minutes. He recommends that Board of Education members be on the Steering Committee. Mr. Jackson also stated that he is distressed about the IA being involved with the private school venture in China. He urged the committee to move forward.
- Stephanie Crider – A Bloomfield Hills parent stated that originally she was going to express disappointment with IA but instead apologized for continuous failures at the IA. Stressed that work needs to be done so that the IA is a win/win for all consortium districts, currently a win/loss situation.
- Jennifer Cook – A Bloomfield Hills resident and Board of Education member. Ms. Cook stressed that all comments were personal, not as a board member. Ms. Cook stated that for the IA to be successful they needed to revisit organization, structure and governance. Disappointed that the principal was not present at tonight's meeting or at last quarter's meeting.
- Carol Finkelstein – Here as an IA alumni parent with love, passion, gratitude and respect for this school. For full disclosure to the public, a board member from one of the consortium districts. However, she made it crystal clear: NOT here as a Board member. Her comments and opinions are solely hers as an IA alumni parent and taxpayer. Ms. Finkelstein spoke about the lack of business being conducted at the IA JS meetings; tonight's meeting only has one order of business. She stated that





International Academy Joint Steering Committee  
Meeting Minutes, continued  
June 3, 2019 at 6:00 PM

the lack of governance is neglectful and that for all our IA students deserve engaged leadership.

- Chris Smith – IA Associate Principal stated that he would be happy to discuss data, and statistical updates for all three campuses at any time.
- Leila Owens – A recent IA graduate. Ms. Owens spoke about responsibility and taking action now, not waiting for a new agreement. She quoted the current IA agreement reinforcing responsibility.
- Keven Huong – An IA alumni. Mr. Huong stressed how important it is for the IA to focus on the mental health and well-being of the students.
- Emelia Askari – A Birmingham and IA alumni parent. Ms. Askari shared copies of the complaint filed with the Attorney General. She stated that the copies did not include the exhibits and interview backup as it was lengthy, and that she would email to the steering committee.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Superintendent Fitzpatrick adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Fitzpatrick  
Superintendent of Schools

## PROPOSED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, at a public meeting on March 4, 2019, the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) passed a resolution appointing a sub-committee to study the IA Consortium Agreement and recommend such amendments as may be appropriate to address issues concerning compliance with certain laws and constitutional provisions;

WHEREAS, the subcommittee has reached recommendations concerning compliance with the Michigan's Open Meetings Act, Michigan's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and related constitutional provisions; and,

WHEREAS, the sub-committee has not completed its entire review and revision of the IA Consortium Agreement;

IT IS RESOLVED: the sub-committee recommends, and the JSC hereby direct the sub-committee to propose, an amendment and re-statement of the IA Consortium Agreement pursuant to which the JSC:

- will be comprised of designated representatives of the IA Consortium Districts; and,
- will conduct its operations in conformity with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, Michigan's Freedom of Information Act and related constitutional provisions; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED: that, until such an amendment and re-statement is proposed and adopted, the JSC will conduct itself in conformity with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, Michigan's Freedom of Information Act and related constitutional provisions, including by posting notice of the dates, times and places of all regularly scheduled meetings of the JSC for the 2019-2020 school year on the premises of facilities where the IA operates and the web-site of the International Academy, [www.iatoday.org](http://www.iatoday.org); and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED: the sub-committee will continue its previously authorized work and, if feasible, propose an amended and re-stated version of the IA Consortium Agreement at the JSC's regularly scheduled December meeting.



**International Academy Joint Steering Committee  
2019/20 School Year Meeting Schedule**

International Academy Joint Steering Committee 2019/20 Meetings, subject to approval by the International Academy Joint Steering Committee:

**Wednesday, October 2, 2019** at  
Huron Valley Schools – Lakeland High School  
1630 Bogie Lake Road  
White Lake, MI 48383  
Large Group Instruction Room

**Wednesday, December 18, 2019** at  
Birmingham Education and Administration Center  
31301 Evergreen Road  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
Evergreen Room

**Wednesday, March 11, 2020** at  
Bloomfield Hills Schools Booth Center  
7273 Wing Lake Rd, Bloomfield Hills 48301  
Rooms A, B & C

**Wednesday, June 10, 2020** at  
Troy School District  
4420 Livernois  
Troy, MI 48098

**All meetings are scheduled to begin at 6:00 PM**

The meeting agendas will be available in advance of the scheduled meetings at <https://www.iatoday.org/about-us/consortium-districts> and posted at each IA campus location.

Meeting Minutes are located at:

The main office of the International Academy located at 1020 E. Square Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48304 and available online at: <https://www.iatoday.org/about-us/consortium-districts>

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**International Academy  
2019-20 Budget Summary**

	<u>International Academy Okma Campus</u>	<u>International Academy West Campus</u>	<u>International Academy East Campus</u>
	2019-20 Original Budget (1)	2019-20 Original Budget (1)	2019-20 Budgeted Expenditures included in the General Fund (2)
<b>Revenue</b>			
Local Sources	320,000	2,744,140	
Interdistrict Sources	5,562,804	-	
Total revenue	5,882,804	2,744,140	
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Instruction:			
Basic Programs	3,952,101	1,801,000	2,749,856
Support services:			
Pupil Services	277,551	135,000	236,669
Instructional Services	208,220	35,000	89,556
School Administration	640,769	457,000	271,777
Physical Plant Services	619,327	228,000	55,207
Transportation	10,739	8,140	1,000
Total support services	1,756,606	863,140	654,209
Community Service	300,000	-	-
Total expenditures	6,008,707	2,664,140	3,404,065
<b>Excess of Revenue Over (Under)</b>			
<b>Expenditures</b>	(125,903)	80,000	
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>			
Transfers in	-	-	
Transfers out	-	(25,000)	
Total other financing uses	-	(25,000)	
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	(125,903)	55,000	
<b>Fund Balance - Beginning of Year</b>	322,805	526,457	
<b>Fund Balance - End of Year</b>	<u>196,902</u>	<u>581,457</u>	

(1) The International Academy Okma Campus and West Campus accounts for activity in a separate fund and is part of each Fiscal Agent's District budget.

(2) The International Academy East Campus activity is accounted for in the Fiscal Agent's General Fund. The expenditure data presented is directly related to the IA East Campus.