



**Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

May 19, 2021 at 4:00 pm via ZOOM Link Available on Website
New London, CT

*This meeting was held virtually in accordance with Governor Lamont's Executive Order.

MINUTES

4:00 pm

1. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

Chairman R.F. Muckle

1a. Establishment of Quorum

1b. Public Comment

The Board of Directors welcomes public comment. Due to the nature of the virtual format of the meeting, all comments are to be submitted via email prior to noon on the day of the meeting. Comments may be made on almost any matter related to the operations of ISAAC and will be shared with the Board members in their packet. We shall not read or address any comments at this meeting. However, comments concerning individual students or staff members shall not be permitted.

4:01 pm

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman R.F. Muckle

- Approval of Minutes from April Meeting
- Approval of Purchase Policy (Board Packet)
- Approval of the Garde Arts Rental Agreement (Board Packet)

Motion: Approve all items on the content agenda

Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: L. Muller; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries.

4:02 pm

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Dr. Spera

3a. COVID-19 Response Update and Future

- For the upcoming school year, there will be no Remote Learning option offered. If things change, the State Department of Education will notify us. Schedules will be prepared based on both scenarios.
- A maximum of 100 people are allowed in the gymnasium. For promotion ceremonies, only staff, board members, students graduating and 2 guests each will be allowed to attend. For this reason, ISAAC is planning on having 4 ceremonies: Drive-Thru starting at 10:00 a.m., In-Person at 12:45, 2:00 and 3:15.

3b. NEASC & Charter Renewal Update

- NEASC
 - D. Dunning, Principal, and T. Collins, Associate Principal, attended a NEASC training. D. Collins has been named the Chair of the NEASC process, co-chairs T. Collins and W. Linsky. Members of the committee will be appointed throughout the summer.
- Charter Renewal Update
 - R. Muckle, D. Dunning, T. Collins and Dr. Spera attended a meeting with the accountability support portion of the board. Attached is what was submitted to the state in regards to the three areas of concern: mathematics, ELA and suspension data. Progress has been made.

3c. ARP ESSER Grant Update

- Grant proposal was submitted to the state with 20% funding the third year of the ESSER positions and the remaining going towards the possibility of an expansion

3d. Legislative Update



- The bill (ECS Cost Sharing) did not include charter schools. There is a possibility that charter schools could get additional funding in other areas ECS is involved with: poverty, free and reduced lunch and the number of EL students in schools. If the bill passes, at a minimum ISAAC would receive an increase of about \$200 per pupil. In order to keep up, we need to get additional funding. We are about \$3000-\$4000 dollars per pupil lower than other schools but with higher expectations and accountability in the state.

3e. Hiring Update

- Hired 11 people this year for the upcoming school year. 36% are minority teachers.

3f. Construction Update

- A meeting will be taking place next week to discuss funds.
- Eversource completed their project of changing all the lighting in the school. The last phase is some upgrades to the HVAC system.

3g. Mortgage Refinance Update

- The refinancing of the mortgage has been completed. This will result in savings for the school.

3h. Executive Director Budget Proposal in Board Packet

- Questions are due to the Executive Director before May 27, 2021
- **Note: All budget discussions will take place at the Budget Workshop meeting**
- From the ESSER Grant we received 1.1 million dollars, rather than the 1.4 we thought we would be receiving. \$200,000 must be used towards supporting students.

3i. ISAAC Teacher of the Year

- L. Lazarou was recognized as the ISAAC 2020/2021 Teacher of the Year.

K. Booker asked Dr. Spera about the recruitment of minority teachers. A discussion ensued.

R. Muckle asked about improvements to our marketing strategies. A discussion ensued.

4:22 pm

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

4a. FINANCE

Treasurer L. Muller

- Finance Update - May Minutes
- Year to Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for May 2021
- Grant Update - ARP ESSER Funds

K. Booker asked how the extra ESSER Funds that haven't been used yet will be allocated. A discussion ensued.

4b. GOVERNANCE

Vice-Chair M. Spellman

- Interviewed Parent and Board Candidates
 - Committee was very impressed with the candidates.
 - Dr. Lawrence Fenn
 - Christina Schiano, Parent Representative

Motion to approve the above candidates to the ISAAC Board of Directors effective at the June 2021 meeting.

- Moved: L. Muller; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries.

- BOD Election Ballot

- Elections at the June Meeting

Motion: Close nominations and approve the election ballot of officers for 2021-22



- Moved: L. Muller; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries.

4:35 pm

5. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman R.F. Muckle

5a. Board Retreat Date and Location in August 2021

Off site at Filomenas is a possible location. To last approximately 5 hours. A remote option will be available to those who prefer. Dr. Spera will look into other locations that can provide an outdoor space. Dr. Spera will send a survey to all the board members to see what date and locations they prefer.

4:42 pm

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman R.F. Muckle

Motion: Adjourn the meeting

- Moved: L. Muller; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries.