



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

August 18, 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.

PRESENT: R. Muckle, B. Crouch, M. Spellman, K. Booker, E. Bumgardner, L. Fenn, D. Brailey, C. Schiano, M. Paterson, N. Spera, D. Dunning, T. Collins, E. Robb

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 July BOD Meeting
- Approval for the Renewal of Janitorial Contract Services with Advantage for \$99,613
- Acceptance of the Year to Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for June 2021
- Acceptance of the Year to Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for July 2021
- Acceptance of the Balance Sheet for June 30 2021

Motion: Approve and accept all items on the consent agenda

Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: D. Bailey; Discussion/Questions: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.

4:02 pm

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Dr. Spera

3a. COVID-19 ReOpening Update

- Today was 6th grade orientation. About 70 students were present. We have about 95 anticipated students starting sixth grade.
- Classrooms are being set up. Awaiting more guidance from the Department of Education. Per the Governor's orders, students may obtain a note to not wear masks in school. The note must come from a professional in the medical field. ISAAC is mandating the use of masks.
- Schedules are being finalized. The SRBI Committee met in regards to preparing for student return.
- We are fully staffed. Bilingual Assistant and Part/Time Cafeteria worker positions are open.
- Starting PD this Friday, with students starting next Thursday.

3b. CSDE Report Update

- After receiving some feedback, the Corrective Action Plan was resubmitted to the CSDE.
- Working with attorneys Ritter and Antonetti, along with the Chairperson on the Corrective Action Plan.
- All sub-committees have been trained.
- The updated corrective plan is in the Board Packet in the Google Drive.
- The Faculty Handbook has been increased by about 30 pages. It is now 69 pages long. In terms of compliance, we are meeting the requirements of the Corrective Action Plan.
- The Student Handbook has also been updated and uploaded in the Board Packet.
- Special Education: Working with NLPS. Came to an agreement that NLPS will be paying \$400,000 of the \$462,000 that had been originally scheduled. Working with coming up with a methodology for a per diem rate for all students with IEPs. Checking with the State Dept. of Ed and the Bureau of Special Education, to see if this allowed, since about a year we were told we



could not do this. The billing methodology has been reduced by removing the \$92,000 in overhead costs.

- Disposal of Equipment: Erica Robb and Bryan Trost have done a great job identifying dollar amounts and also ensuring that we are disposing in the proper manner according to policy and procedures. All disposed equipment will have documentation.

3c. Grant Update

- The ESSER Grant was approved. This will cover the next 2 years for the critical positions of Bilingual Teacher, Math Interventionist, Core Instructional Coach. Approximately \$900,000 towards construction costs: Science Lab and full size band/choral room.
- B. Crouch mentioned the United Way Grant to Dr. Spera and he proceeded to apply and submit it last week. \$25,000 for after-school programming.
- Applied for 2 state grants for after-school programming. We are hoping to get one. \$200,000 for 5 years. That would also include money for busing for students in the after school program.

3d. Legislative Update

- Several new laws this year and in the future including by July 1, 2022 we must have different measures to identify and provide programming for talented and gifted students.
- We are now part of the ECS formula, which means an increase in funding. We will not see a difference in the next two to three years.

3e. Hiring Update

- Looking for Part-Time Cafeteria Worker and a Bilingual Assistant who speaks Spanish and is a high school graduate.

3f. JCJ Architecture Construction Project Update

- Will be meeting, along with the architect, with New London City Hall to go over Planning and Zoning to discuss the plan in early September. At a future board meeting we will discuss some of the options, RFP, funding, etc.

3g. Food Service Update

- Very pleased with Dr. Fenn's recommendation of a food consultant. We hired a Food Service Director, Charles Bailow. Ensuring that the quality of the food we serve our students is of the highest quality. Will be consulting with JCJ for the expansion of the cafeteria.

3h. NEASC Accreditation Visit Update - October 20-23, 2024 (Collaborative Conference - Fall 2022)

- Making sure that the curriculum we have in place for this year is approved. Will start a steering committee.

4:20 pm

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

4a. FINANCE

Dr. Spera

- Finance Update - August Minutes
- Grant Updates: ARP ESSER, Afterschool Grant, Safety Security Grants

4b. CURRICULUM

Dr. D. Brailey

- Committee recommendation for approval of the following curricula: Music Tech, Swing Choir, Concert Band, Adv 3D Art, Intro to Theater, Musical Theater, Language Academy
Motion: Approve the curricula for Music Technology, Swing Choir, Concert Band, Advanced 3D Art, Introduction to Theater, Musical Theater, and Language Academy
Moved: Dr. Brailey; 2nd: M. Paterson; Discussion: Dr. Fenn asked about scheduling and staffing for the above positions. A discussion ensued. Dr. Brailey stated that the curriculum is the most sophisticated and comprehensive since he has been on the board. Chairman Muckle stated that this is the most concentrated arts curriculum ISAAC has ever had. In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.

4c. GOVERNANCE

Vice-Chairman M. Spellman

- Renewal of BOD Positions and Terms for 2021-22 School Year

4d. EXECUTIVE

Chairman R.F. Muckle



- Update on Trainings with Subcommittees. All subcommittees have been trained by Shipman and Goodwin.
- Chairman Muckle wanted to publicly thank Dr. Spera for his hard work and response to the corrective action plan. The attorneys from Shipman and Goodwin gave praise to Dr. Spera and told the Executive Committee how impressed they were with Dr. Spera's thoroughness, determination, and focus.

4:34 pm

5. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman R.F. Muckle

5a. Approval of 2021-2022 ISAAC Budget

Motion: Approve the ISAAC Budget as presented at the Budget Workshop for the 2021-22 School Year

Moved: Spellman; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion was carried unanimously.

5b. Addition to the agenda:

Motion to put on the agenda: Adoption of amended board policy: Model Code of Conduct Governing Procurements Under a Federal Award

Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: K. Booker; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion to adopt the amended board policy: Series 3000 - Business - Model Code of Conduct Governing Procurements Under a Federal Award

Moved: M. Spellman; 2nd: L. Bumgardner; Discussion: Brief; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carried unanimously

4:45 pm

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman R.F. Muckle

Motion to adjourn this meeting.

Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: K. Booker; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The meeting was adjourned.