



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

July 21, 2021 at 4:00 pm via ZOOM

*New London, CT*

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

BOD PRESENT: R. Muckle, B. Crouch, L. Fenn, L. Muller, L. Bumgardner, D. Brailey, K. Booker, N. Spera, C. Schiano, M. Paterson

**AGENDA**

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 June BOD Meeting
- Approval of Minutes from Special Meeting of the Board - June 30, 2021
- Acceptance of the Year to Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for July 2021

*Motion: Approve and accept all items on the content agenda*

Moved: Dr. David Brailey; 2nd: K. Booker; Discussion: 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

Now being referred to as the Delta variant. Social distance has changed from 6' to 3'. Contact tracing will be in full effect. Mrs. Dunning, Mrs. Collins and the school nurse will all be involved, as well as Dr. Spera, in contact tracing. Music classes will take place with a 6' x 9' distance between students. Our music room can accommodate 24 students. The maximum amount of time is 30 minutes, followed by 20 minutes to allow for air circulation.

3b. CSDE Report Update

Working with the Turnaround Office in reference to our Corrective Action Plan. Also working with our attorney. Met with R. Muckle, our attorney, Mrs. Collins and Mrs. Dunning accountability subcommittee of the board about us going on probation and discussed our Commitment for the betterment of our school looking to be better in terms of meeting the guidelines set forth for us. This is the same committee of the Board that will meet twice a year to discuss our academic achievement and suspension rate. The curriculum we have will help improve our student achievement.

3c. Grant Update

Applied for a 5-year grant for after school. The difference between this grant and the one previously applied for is that the other grant was a 3-year grant. It will be about \$200,000 each year. We have not received word on either grant, but it looks like if we get both, we will be able to choose one. Obviously, we would go with the 5-year one. This would provide funding for activities but also busing for our New London students. We will still offer after-school programming for this school year. We will work this onto the budget, but busing might not be included. We have not heard back about the safety grant that we submitted. Will be submitting the ARP ESSER Grant which will include the construction of classrooms, which will include a larger music room and a science



classroom to include a lab. This grant will also include the continuation of the 3 positions that were created with the ESSER 2 grant.

3d. Legislative Update

The Governor has signed and put through an increase in tuition. Charter schools are now at the state statute minimum requirement of per pupil expenditure. We are part of the education cost sharing. So now we are part of the ECS formula. This does give us additional funds, roughly \$100,000 this year.

3e. Hiring Update

Hired two new Special Education Teachers, Social Studies Teacher, Music Teacher, Dean of Students who speaks three languages, Food Service Director, Food Service Consultant

3f. JCJ Architecture Construction Project Update

Will wait for the state department to approve our ARP ESSER Grant. The Executive Committee discussed what our other funding resources are. Our school is valued at \$2.46 million. We are considering borrowing around \$500,000, if needed.

3g. Food Service Update

Hired a Food Service Director and will also be using a Food Service Consultant.

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

Board Members will be involved in both events.

Curriculum Committee. Dr. Spera met with Dr. Brailey. The first meeting of the committee will be on Thursday, 7/29/2021. Looking at 4 meetings per year that will include student achievement assessment data that is reported to the state. Twice a year will do reports to the entire board in terms of our academic achievement. In the fall, will report on SBAC scores and in the spring the end-of-year report to entire BOD.

4:15 pm

**4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

4a. FINANCE

*Treasurer L. Muller*

- Finance Update - July Minutes
- Budget Process
- Grant Updates: ARP ESSER, Afterschool Grant, Safety Security Grants
- *Motion to move \$155,250.00 into our capital reserve*  
Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: K. Booker; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.
- The revised proposed budget will be sent to the board on 7/29/21. Any questions should be submitted to Erica Robb by 8/5/21.
- The Budget Workshop will take place on 8/12/21. Tentative Board approval of the budget will take place at the regular meeting on 8/18/21.

4b. EXECUTIVE

*Chairman R.F. Muckle*

- JCJ Architecture Construction Project Update - Discussed under Executive Director Report
- CSDE Update and Progress - Continue to work very closely with the State. Chairman Muckle has been attending all the meetings.
- Legislative Update - Discussed under Executive Director Report
- Food Service Update - Discussed under Executive Director Report

4:25 pm

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

*Chairman R.F. Muckle*

5a. Discussion about Masks in School

B. Crouch reported that she has been discussing this topic with Dr. Spera. Because of the rise in positive cases of the Delta variant, the suggestion is to require that students and staff wear masks while in the building for the safety of all. A discussion ensued, with all the comments being in favor of the use of masks by everyone while in the building.



*Motion to require masks by all students and staff while in the building until the point where our medical advisor advises us that it is safe to do so.*

Moved: Dr. Larry Fenn ; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.

5b. Board Retreat on August 9, 2021, 5 pm to 8 pm at Filomena's in Waterford, CT

4:35 pm

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

*Chairman R.F. Muckle*