

Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 19, 2022 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.

In attendance: R. Muckle, M. Spellman, L. Muller, B. Crouch, D. Brailey, M. Paterson, C. Schiano, K. Booker, L. Fenn, N. Spera

MINUTES

- 4:05 pm **1. WELCOME /CALL TO ORDER** *Vice Chairperson M. Spellman*
- 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.*
- 4:06 pm **2. CONSENT AGENDA** *Vice Chairperson M. Spellman*
- Approval of Minutes from December BOD Meeting
 - Approval of the 2022-2023 School Year Calendar
 - Authorization for Erica Robb, Director of Finance, to be the “account owner” of the ISAAC QuickBooks accounting software
 - Approval of 2022 Board of Directors Dates
 - Acceptance of the Year-to-Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for December 2021
- Possible Motion: Approve and accept all items on the consent agenda*
- Moved: L. Muller; 2nd: D. Brailey; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries
- 4:03 pm **3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** *Dr. Spera*
- 3a. COVID-19 Re-Opening Update
- Committed to the safety of all students and staff. 75% of all our cases have been after the winter break. We continue to do contact tracing, even though it is voluntary. Remote learning is not allowed by the State Department of Education. We will have clinics at the school in the near future on Wednesdays for vaccinations. Having our custodial staff come from an outside agency has been great since, when one of the custodians is absent, the company sends a substitute custodian.
- 3b. CSDE Report Update
- We continue to work with the turnaround office. Met with them in December. Continue discussions on how we show student achievement and growth using the IABs. We continue to keep moving the school forward and ensuring that we are doing the components needed to be a successful school. Plan on having a couple of CSDE representatives come and work with us in providing a free workshop with our ELA teachers, planning on doing in the beginning of February.
- 3c. Grant Update
- Continue to look at how we are utilizing the grant. First year we have to spend \$200,000.00. Looking into an enhancement grant for another \$250k plus, which would be used toward busing for all students, not just New London students. Have not heard back from the security grant.

3d. Legislative Update

Looking to get into the same language as magnet schools: 504 reimbursement, transportation reimbursement.

3e. Hiring Update

No new hires to report. Do have a couple of anticipated positions.

3f. JCJ Architecture Construction Project Update

Next step is going to zoning in New London and getting approval based on the drawings and the application. This is coming this week and next.

3g. Donation Acceptance

Will be accepting a donation from a fencing group associated with USA Fencing for approximately \$1,500.00. The donation is for a fencing scoring machine.

3h. Food Service Update and Cafeteria Upgrades

Part of the cafeteria upgrade will be paid with the cost of our food service as allowable. This upgrade will probably take place during April vacation. Part of the 21st Century Grant is to do community outreach, and we are doing this by providing meals to families of the students participating in the after-school programming.

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

Just named Steering Committee Chairs, T. Collins, Associate Principal, and J. Mitchell, Math Interventionist.

4:20 pm

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

4a. FINANCE

Treasurer L. Muller

● Finance Update - January Minutes

Motion: Approve the 2022/2023 Special Education Billing Rate of \$63.60 per hour.

Moved: D. Brailey; 2nd: K. Booker; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None;

Abstentions: None. The motion carries.

● 2021-2022 Revised Budget

Erica Robb

A discussion ensued as to revisions to the budget.

Possible Motion: Approve and accept the revised 2021-2022 Budget as presented

Moved: D. Brailey; 2nd: L. Muller; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None;

Abstentions: None. The motion carries.

4:30 pm

5. NEW BUSINESS

Vice Chairperson M. Spellman

5a. Special Education Billing Rate Methodology

Erica Robb

Possible Motion: Accept the Special Education billing rate of \$63.60 for the 2022-2023 school year.

This was done under 4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS.

5b. 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Overview

William Linski

Moved to the February Meeting.

D. Dunning, Principal, gave an overview of our after-school programming. The 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant makes it possible to offer some amazing opportunities for our students. The Step-In Program focuses on our New London students, due to transportation issues. The after school clubs are Environmental, Math Counts, Culinary, Leadership and Gaming. There was a great turnout. The Environmental Club is co-taught from people from Project Oceanology.

Culinary students are learning tricks to the trade about cooking. Students will be able to cook, eat and even take home the food they cook. MathCounts club provides the students the opportunity to hone in on their skills. There will be competitions with other middle schools. The Leadership Club was started by B. Harris and brings in people from the community who are leaders. The Gaming Club provides an array of students the opportunity to play with other students with adult supervision. The Step Up program will be a summer program for our incoming 6th graders. It will run Monday thru Thursday from 8:00-12:00. They will understand our core values prior to starting the school year. A discussion ensued. Dr. Fenn suggested looking to expand the summer program to include a theater component.

4:50 pm

6. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairperson M. Spellman

Motion: Adjourn the meeting

Moved: L. Fenn; 2nd: M. Spellman; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries.