

Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 15, 2022, at 4:00 pm, via ZOOM Link Available on Website

New London, CT

This meeting was held virtually.

MINUTES

***** DRAFT *****

PRESENT: R. Muckle, M. Spellman, B. Crouch, L. Muller, R. Sanders, C. Schiano, M. Paterson, L. Fenn, K. Booker, L. Bumgardner

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 May BOD Meeting
- Acceptance of the Year-to-Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for May 2022
- Approval of the 2022-2023 ISAAC Budget
- Approval of the revised ISAAC Business Manual that includes the ISAAC Special Education Billing Methodology

Motion: Approve and accept all items on the consent agenda

Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: K. Booker; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries

4:03 pm

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Dr. Spera

3a. COVID-19 Re-Opening Update

The State Department of Education is expecting that Halloween will be when we will see another surge of the virus and for school to be prepared.

3b. CSDE Report Update

Had a meeting with the SDE regarding the probation status. We received an extension for our probation based on two categories. (1) Special Education Billing: On 9/22/2021 completed all 4 of the buckets of the initial probation, which included the biggest bucket of all, the special education billing methodology that was required. Because of the complexities of this methodology, the SDE would like to see this component in action some time in December of this school year. (2) Business Manual: Include in the business manual the special education billing methodology. The probation status was extended to December 2022 or January 2023.

3c. Grant Update

There is going to be a new grant program for school social workers, psychologists/counselors and nurses. If any of the COVIC money has been used to add social workers, school psychologists and nurses, there may be money available to continue paying them, rather than using our own tuition funds. We may be able to use some of the COVID funds toward the salary of the additional Social Worker that was hired after the pandemic started, as well as for the Nurse's Aide.

3d. Legislative Update

Teacher Certification Review – Now accepting out of state. Hired a Music teacher who has a teacher certification in New Hampshire. This should help with some of the recruitment process. We are currently 100% staffed for the upcoming school year.

Remote Learning – Currently only grades 9 thru 12 for the upcoming school year are allowed to do remote learning. In 2024/2025 we will have remote learning as an option.

Mental Health – Student athletes: Next year the board will be coming up with a policy. Children’s Mental Health Day, May 26 – Every school in the state will go outside and play to raise awareness of mental health and experience the positive effect on the outdoors for children. Dr. Spera will keep an eye out on any funding that might be available so that we can take our students to grassy areas.

Juneteenth – School districts are recommended to have all school full-time, permanent employees receive this day as a paid holiday. This has been implemented into our calendar.

Teachers’ Lunch Break – Teachers must now have a 30-minute, uninterrupted lunch break.

3e. Hiring Update

A Music Teacher has been hired.

3f. NEASC Accreditation Update – Collaborative Conf. Visit - Oct 17-18, 2022 (Oct 20-23, 2024)

Completed all aspects of the NEASC process.

4:18 pm

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

4a. FINANCE

Treasurer L. Muller

- Finance Update - May Minutes

4b. GOVERNANCE

Chairman R.F. Muckle

- Recommendation of New Board of Directors Members: Dr. Richard Sanders and Teacher Representative Melanie Paterson

Motion: To accept the nomination of Dr. Richard Sanders and Melanie Paterson onto the ISAAC Board of Directors

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

Both members were sworn in as members of the Board of Directors and shared a few words.

- Bylaw Changes: Elimination of Term Limits

Motion: To eliminate the term limits from the BOD Bylaws

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

4c. EXECUTIVE

- Evaluation of the Executive Director – To be discussed under New Business
- SBAC Scores – To be discussed under New Business
- Construction Loan for Project with G. Donovan Associates – To be discussed under New Business

4:36 pm

5. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman R.F. Muckle

5a. Oath of Office for New Board of Directors Members – Done under 4b.

5b. Election of Officers for 2022-2023

The ballot has one person for each position. All the current officers agreed to stay on.

Chairperson: R.F. Muckle; Vice Chairperson: M. Spellman; Treasurer: L. Muller; Secretary: B. Crouch

The question of whether there were any other nominations was asked. There were none.

Motion: To approve the ballot as presented.

Moved: R.F. Muckle; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.

Motion to elect Chairperson R.F. Muckle; Vice Chairperson: M. Spellman; Treasurer: L. Muller; Secretary: B. Crouch; Treasurer: L. Muller for the next term of the board.

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

5c. 2022 SBAC Score Report

Dr. Spera

Dr. Spera shared the SBAC scores, which reveal an overall improvement in ELA and Math. A discussion ensued.

- 5d. NEASC Standard 1 Self Study *Associate Principal Collins*
T. Collins shared her screen and explained each of the different aspects of this standard and how they are being addressed and implemented at ISAAC. This is the last standard and completes the Self Study.
- 5e. Possible Action on Construction Loan/Financing *Chairman R.F. Muckle*
Motion: Accept Option 3 as sent to the Board by the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee and authorize Dr. Spera and/or the Board Chair to sign all necessary documents for the financing.
Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: K. Booker; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.
- 5f. Possible Action on Contract with G. Donovan Associates
Motion: Dr. Spera to be authorized to provide his signature on the construction documents with G. Donovan Associates.
Moved: L. Muller; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.
- 5g. Possible Executive Session to discuss the Evaluation of the Executive Director and School Safety
Motion: Move into Executive Session to discuss the Evaluation of the Executive Director and School Safety and invite the Executive Director and all Board Members with the exception of the Parent Director and the Teacher Director.
Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: L. Muller; Discussion: The Parent Director and Teacher Director to be invited to the School Safety evaluation; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.
- 5h. Possible action based on new business item 5g
Motion: Accept the Policy 49-11 on School Safety 49-11
Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: L. Muller; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.
Motion: Accept the Evaluation of the Executive Director
In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None. The motion carries.

5:40 pm

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman R.F. Muckle

Motion: Adjourn the meeting
Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: L. Muller; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries.

There will be no Board of Directors Meeting in July.