

Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

April 27, 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.

**AGENDA**

**PRESENT:** R. Muckle, B. Crouch, L. Muller, C. Schinao, M. Paterson, L. Fenn, M. Spellman, L. Bumgardner

**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.*

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Chairman R.F. Muckle*

- Approval of Minutes from March BOD Meeting
- Approval of Minutes from March Special Meeting of the BOD
- Acceptance of the Year-to-Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for March 2022
- Acceptance of the updated ISAAC Organizational Chart
- Approval of the Identification of Gifted & Talented Students according to Public Act No. 21-199,
- Section 2 as recommended by the Curriculum Committee
- Approval of a New Challenging Curriculum for Grade 8 students according to Public Act No. 21-
- 199, Section 5 as recommended by the Curriculum Committee

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

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

**3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

*Dr. Spera*

3a. COVID-19 Re-Opening Update

The CSDE sent a notice from DPH notifying them that rates of positive cases of COVID-19 have been increasing. They provided a template of what to send to families in terms of helping support what is going on. Steps have been taken to help maintain the school's positive cases at a minimum.

3b. CSDE Report Update

The final report will be submitted before our students take the SBAC.

3c. Grant Update

We received \$1.1 million total in grants, which includes an extension grant of approximately \$283,000.00 for the purchase of vans, a printer and some other items, which would expand our summer program (adding music and theater components). The Step-Up Program is for our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The summer program will be for our current 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. Looking into the purchase of vans has proven extremely difficult.

3d. Legislative Update

Wrote to the Board about Bill 5283, which passed the Appropriations Committee. This would be a big piece for us. It would move us up to where the districts are in the 10-year ECS schedule, which would be a considerable amount of money to come to ISAAC over the next couple of years. The bill is going to the House and Senate, and hopefully will be signed off by the Governor.

3e. Hiring Update

We had a long-term substitute who has an Art Degree. She passed the praxis, making her eligible to receive a charter permit. Emily Feltes is now our Art Teacher.

Filled an Administrative Assistant position. Ms. Jay Alvarez will be working with M. Rivera in the Main Office.

3f. JCJ Architecture Construction Project Update

We had 3 bids. A public opening of all 3 bids was done. Two bids were for around \$2.5 million, 1 bid was for around \$2.2 million. A couple of days later the construction company, Enterprise, notified our architects that there was a \$150,000.00 mistake. They were forced to withdraw their bid. The decision was made to withdraw all the bids. K. Booker, N. Spera and the architects met to discuss some things that can be taken away from losing the grand scope of things in the hope of lowering the price. Another RFP was posted yesterday, which is due May 12.

3g. Food Service Update and Cafeteria Upgrades

The kitchen has been renovated. T. Rodriguez, our Director of Maintenance and Facilities, did most of the work, working directly with our Building Inspector.

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

Our Steering Committee has been meeting all week. Writing these reports, meeting about these reports and meeting with every faculty member and getting feedback from them has proven to be a lot of work. By June the final standard will be in place and will then submit the final report to NEASC. We will host NEASC on May 24, probably virtually. Will discuss and share with them Standard 1, which has to do with school culture and climate.

#### 4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

4a. FINANCE

*Treasurer L. Muller*

● Finance Update - March Minutes

Appreciation was expressed to N. Spera and W. Linski for their hard work on applying for grants.

*Motion: Waive the bidding and quote requirements as allowed by ISAAC purchasing policy in order to facilitate sourcing and purchasing of the vans within the grant's 5 months.*

Moved: B. Crouch; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Fenn; Discussion: None; In Favor: All; Opposed: None; Abstentions: None.

The motion carries.

● The budget for next year will be distributed for review in advance in order to discuss at the May meeting.

The expectation is to vote on the budget at the June board meeting.

4b. CURRICULUM

*Dr. Spera*

● March Minutes

4c. SCHOOL BUILDING

*Chairman R.F. Muckle*

● School Building Update from Public Bid

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

*Chairman R.F. Muckle*

5a. NEASC Standard 3 Self Study

*Associate Principal Collins*

Associate Principal Collins reported on the results of the self study.

5b. Possible Executive Session to discuss employee contracts

*Motion: Move into Executive Session to discuss employee contracts*

Moved: B. Crouch - Invited Board and Dr. Spera; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Dr. Fenn; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries.

5c. Approval of non-certified teacher employee contracts

*Motion: Accept the contract increases recommended by the Executive Director for all non-teachers*

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

#### 6. ADJOURNMENT

*Chairman R.F. Muckle*

*Motion: Adjourn the meeting*

Moved: B. Crouch; 2<sup>nd</sup>: L. Muller; In Favor: All; Opposed: None. The motion carries.