



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

April 23, 2025 at 4:00 pm

Meeting held virtually

New London, CT

In Attendance: Richard Muckle, Dr. Nicholas J. Spera, Lee Muller, Barbara Crouch, Bill Buscetto, Amanda Grundy, Shannon Lougee, Erica Robb, Amy Geary, Tanya Collins, Michael Spellman

MINUTES

4:00 pm

1. WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

Chairman R.F. Muckle

1a. Establishment of Quorum - *quorum established*

1b. Public Comment – *no public comment*

4:01 pm

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman R.F. Muckle

- Approval of Minutes from the March BOD Meeting
- Acceptance of the Year-to-Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for March 2025
- Acceptance of the Balance Sheet for March 31, 2025
- Approval of the Revised Business Manual

Motion: Approve and accept all items on the consent agenda

Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: B. Buscetto; Discussion: none; In Favor: all; Opposed: none; Abstentions: none

Motion Carries by unanimous voice vote

4:03 pm

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Dr. Spera

3a. CSDE Report Update

Submitting 3rd report as required by our action plan soon. Report includes our academic goals, academic growth data, aims web and IEB data, and reporting on suspension data.

3b. Grant Update

CSP grant annual audit visit was on April 4 place a couple of days ago. We had a successful visit.

Another grant opportunity to apply for school project funds from the CSDC is coming in mid-May. This grant would include funds for mortgage debt repayment and building upgrades.

3c. Legislative Update

The proposed ECS (education cost sharing) bill calls for ISAAC to remain stagnant for another year in the ECS formula in funds that we receive with increase after fiscal year 2026. We have reached out to Representative Nolan and Senator Summers asking for reconsideration considering the rising cost of everything. Other public schools will be 100% funding for ECS while we will remain at 50% plus.

3d. Student Recruitment & Lottery Update

We are at full enrollment with a healthy waiting list. 250 lottery applications received for 117(4th grade: 28, 5th grade: 1, 6th grade: 88) slots.

3e. Hiring Update

All openings have been filled. We have hired new teachers for the 4th and 5th grade programs, 1 6th grade science teacher and a school psychologist.

3f. Budget Process Outlook

Budget will be presented to the Board next month. All aspects of the budget are currently being reviewed.

Motion: to amend agenda adding item 5c. Executive Session to discuss a pending claim.

Moved: R. Muckle; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: none; In Favor: all; Opposed: none; Abstentions: none

Motion Carries by unanimous voice vote

4:15 pm

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

4a. FINANCE

Treasurer L. Muller

- Finance Update - March Minutes
Profit and Loss Report approved in consent agenda; budget will be presented next month.

4b. SCHOOL BUILDING

Chairman R.F. Muckle

- Building Project Update
Interior of the building complete; Exterior masonry complete, landscaping and cement work will follow, windows will be put in this weekend hopefully.

4c. GOVERNANCE

Vice Chairman Spellman

- Federal mandate to revert to 2020 versions for Policies Sexual Discrimination & Sexual Harassment 5420, Non-Discrimination (STUDENTS) 5004, Sexual Discrimination & Sexual Harassment in the Workplace 4218, Non-Discrimination (PERSONNEL) 4004
Motion: to revert to 2020 versions
Moved: B. Buscetto; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: none; In Favor: all; Opposed: none; Abstentions: none
Motion Carries by unanimous voice vote
- Shipman & Goodwin Policy Update for School Security & Safety and Visitors and Observation in the Schools, identifying one school official (Dr. Spera) who will meet with federal immigration authorities if they were to visit ISAAC.
Motion: to update School Security & Safety Policy and Visitor and Observation in the School Policy
Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: M. Spellman; Discussion: none; In Favor: all; Opposed: none; Abstentions: none
Motion Carries by unanimous voice vote
- NEW POLICY: Restorative Practices Policy
Motion: to adopt the Restorative Practices Policy as written and recommended by Shipman & Goodwin
Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: S. Lougee; Discussion: none; In Favor: all; Opposed: none; Abstentions: none
Motion Carries by unanimous voice vote
- NEW POLICY: Connecticut School Climate Policy
Motion: to adopt the Connecticut School Climate Policy as written by CSDE and recommended by Shipman & Goodwin
Moved: L. Muller; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: none; In Favor: all; Opposed: none; Abstentions: none
Motion Carries by unanimous voice vote

4:20 pm

5. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman R.F. Muckle

- 5a. Spring Staff & Student Culture & Climate Survey Results
Ms. Collins shares spring staff & student survey results with the Board

T. Collins

- 5b. Graduation – Thursday, June 5, 2025 at USCGA

Dr. Spera

- 5c. Executive Session to Discuss a Pending Claim

Chairman R.F. Muckle

Motion: to move into Executive Session with an invitation to Attorney Dave Ryan, Noah DeFeo and Dr. Spera
Moved: R. Muckle; 2nd: B. Crouch; Discussion: none; In Favor: all; Opposed: none; Abstentions: none
Motion Carries by unanimous voice vote

5:00 pm

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman R.F. Muckle

Motion: To Adjourn

Moved: B. Crouch; 2nd: L. Muller; Discussion: none; In Favor: all; Opposed: none; Abstentions: none
Motion Carries by unanimous voice vote