



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

April 13, 2026 at 4:00 pm via ZOOM

New London, CT

PRESENT: Muckle, Spellman, Crouch, Muller, Dr. Sanders, Dr. Brailey, Buscetto, Grundy
OTHERS: Dr. Spera, Alger

MINUTES

- 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 the March 2026 BOD Meeting
 - Approval of the Addendum to the Employment Contract of the Executive Director
 - Acceptance of the Year-to-Date Profit/Loss Financial Report for March 2026
 - Acceptance of the Balance Sheet for March 31, 2026*Motion: Approve and accept all items on the consent agenda.*
MOTION MADE BY: MULLER, 2ND MOTION: DR. SANDERS. IN FAVOR: ALL.
MOTION PASSES
- 4:03 pm **3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** *Dr. Spera*
3a. CSDE Report Update
Dr. Spera spoke about the administrative team's commitment towards meeting the goals with the performance improvement reports that must be submitted to CSDE. The next report due is in May 2026. The team has seen progress in all areas. Dr. Spera stated that although the state requires academic performance data from AIMSWeb, it is not a strong correlation to the SBA testing that will be administered next month. Dr. Spera is hopeful that with the increased push on RIGOR this school year, results should be strong.
3b. Grant Update
Dr. Spera reported that the school is still waiting for the 21CCLC Grant to be released and for the Bond Commission to meet to approve the \$3 plus million dollars in funding.
3c. Legislative Update
Dr. Spera continues to lobby for equity in school funding. He expressed frustration that possible funding could come to support all school districts in the state who continue to receive increased funds from tax increases; however, Charter schools receive no additional funding each year with increased salaries, benefits, and utilities. It is difficult to ask Charter schools to outperform districts with less funding. Dr. Spera does not think most senators and representatives are aware of charter expectations and the funding differences between charter schools and magnet schools.
3d. Hiring Update
Dr. Spera reported that they are still looking for a 7th grade mathematics teacher.
3e. Budget Process Outlook
Dr. Spera has been working with Erica Robb on the budget for the past several months. He is still waiting for the outcomes of this legislative session in order to accurately build a sound budget for next year.
3f. Graduation – Monday, June 5, 2026 at Garde Arts
Dr. Spera asked the Board to email him with their RSVP for the ceremony.
- 4:15 pm **4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**
4a. FINANCE *Treasurer L. Muller*



- Finance Update - April Minutes

Treasurer Lee Muller discussed the current finance report. She thanked Dr. Spera and Eric Robb for their hard work in ensuring that ISAAC is financially successful.

4:20 pm

5. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman R.F. Muckle

5a. Spring Staff, Teacher, & Student Culture & Climate Survey Results *Dr. Spera*

Dr. Spera presented the Spring Culture and Climate results that continue to meet the Board and school goals.

4:30 pm

6. BOARD TRAINING

Attorney Jessica Ritter

- Training with Board Attorney, Jessica Ritter, from Shipman and Goodwin

Dr. Spera welcomed Board Attorney Jessica Ritter. Attorney Ritter presented to the Board several topics including Executive Director vs Superintendent Contracts, new bullying laws, an update on passed legislation and its impact on schools, and the requirement for districts to provide demographic information. A discussion ensued regarding districts not providing information to ISAAC. Attorney Ritter stated that the requested demographic information is a violation of FERPA and should be provided. Attorney Ritter offered to draft a standard letter regarding the law. Chairman Muckle stated that he has had a discussion with Dr. Spera about this topic and would welcome support. Dr. Spera stated that New London, Stonington, and LEARN were three of the districts that did not provide names. Waterford and Groton are always compliant.

5:15 pm

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman R.F. Muckle

MOTION MADE BY: CROUCH, 2ND MOTION: MULLER. IN FAVOR: ALL. MOTION PASSES