



INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL OF TRENTON

105 Grand Street Trenton, NJ 08611 609/394-3111 [fax 394-3116]

ICST Board of Trustees MINUTES for May 5, 2022

Opening of meeting, 5:15 pm. Trustees participating, via Google Meet were Trustees Bob Kull (BK, presiding), Rachel Binz (RB), Valeen Vaccaro (VV), Kim Sdeo (KS). Jason Briggs (JB). Also present online at the meeting were April Nixon (AN), Peter Lanzi (PL) and David Bosted (DB). Melissa Benford (MB), CSA, was at ICST. Call to Order. Flag Salute/Pledge of Allegiance. All provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1976 "Sunshine Law" NJ Public Law 231 had been met in the scheduling of the meeting. MB reported that members of the public had the opportunity to provide comments in person or in advance or to join the meeting but she had received no public comments for the Trustees and no requests to join the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct regular business of the public charter school. Flag Salute. Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Minutes and Public Comment. Review of minutes of the April 7, 2022 meeting. Motion to approve while deleting any references to KS being at the meeting, which she was not. m/RB, s/VV, yes, RB, VV, JB, BK approved, KS abstaining.

2. Governance, School management. (a) MB reported that Lead and Copper water tests indicate that the tap water at ICST is safe. The results are posted on the website. (b) MB said that Covid continues to impact attendance for staff and students. ICST continues to offer antigen testing to parents and students, and rapid tests for students. Overall there has been a reduction of Covid cases from the peak, but Covid is still widespread in NJ. Masks are optional. (c) The 3rd and 4th grade SLS testing begins next week for students with IEPs, then the general student population on 5/16. (d) NJSIG Indemnity Trust Agreement, annual renewal, m/RB, s/VV, yes, RB, VV, JB, KS, BK, unanimous approval.

3. Financial Report and Review of expenditures, income, budget. (a) Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies reports for March 2022 were reviewed. The Board Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report agree and were arrived at independently. Motion to approve m/RB, s/JB, yes, JB, VV, RB, KS, BK, unanimously approved. (b) The monthly payroll totals for April 2022 @ \$109,126.64. M/KS, s/JB, yes JB, RB, KS, VV, BK, approved. unanimous. (c) Review of the April bills list and resolution to pay bills total of \$71,138.84, m/RB, s/VV, yes, RB, VV, KS, JB, BK, unanimous approval. (d) There were no transfers of funds.

4. Grants. (a) MB reported that ICST is eligible for a School Security and Safety grant of approximately \$20 to 22,346. ICST would use this money to install a panic button hardwire system and a remote release door lock system. Motion to apply, and to accept the grant if it is awarded, m/JB, s/KS, yes, JB, KS, VV, RB, BK, unanimously approved. (b). The ARP grant is being carefully administered, amended and monitored by PL and especially Nicole Corchado to ensure that ICST gets the most out of the available dollars, and that those expenditures are allowable and properly accounted for according to GAAP and Title 1 code.

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5. *Report on Staffing, Personnel and Employee Issues.* MB said that interviews for open positions have been going well. (b) NJDOE has updated the teacher certification website and platform, so we are trying to get everything done that needs to be entered before May 31.
6. *Executive Session (optional, no exec session held).*
7. *"Under the Gold Dome."* No report, but discussion of a video on YouTube that showed a Trenton health officer inappropriately dressed while receiving a massage at a meeting.
8. *Report on School Days, Student Achievement, Attendance and Enrollment.* (a) MB reported that the school is operating successfully, full time, full of energy and enthusiasm. Student behavior continues to be extremely positive. We are working hard to remain positive and calm. Testing shows, without doubt, that the Covid pandemic has had a major effect on student learning but that has not diminished academic efforts. (b) The bad weather throughout April had one good effect – it avoided the usual Spring Fever. (b) About 85% of the parents of the students who were invited to participate in Summer School have signed off on their student attending summer school. (c.) Daily attendance: most recent calculations show 93.67% in large part due to Covid. (d) MB reported that enrollment is at 88 students, with two vacancies in 4th grade (which are the hardest seats to fill).
9. *Report on Facility.* (a) MB reported on building maintenance and repairs. The walkthroughs are finished and now we are waiting for the quotes to improve the new fifth grade space as well as downstairs flooring. (b) MB reported that the HRC is doing work to comply with the Fire Inspectors findings. The front door has been the same, solid, functioning door and lock for the past 24 years, but the new fire inspector now finds fault with it.
10. *School Operations.* There were no HIB incidents during the past month (or in the past year). Two Emergency drills were conducted in April. Parents were notified.
11. *Old (unfinished) Business.* None. 12. *Correspondence review, if any.* None discussed.
13. *Trustee business and announcements.* BOT Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of the month for the 2021-22 academic year, starting at 5:15 PM, on 6/2, 7/7 and 8/4.
14. *Adjourn.* 6:05 PM.