



INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL OF TRENTON

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

ICST Board of Trustees MINUTES for March 23, 2023

Opening of meeting, 5:15 PM. 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. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct regular business of the public charter school. Present at ICST or virtually were Trustee Valeen Vaccaro (VV), Jason Briggs (JB) and Bob Kull (BK, presiding). Also attending were ICST school principal April Nixon (AN), CSA Melissa Benford (MB), and auditors Katherine Gonzalez and Rick Marano of Barre and Co. Also present online at the meeting was Peter Lanzi (PL). Call to Order. Flag Salute/Pledge of Allegiance. 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.

1. Minutes and Public Comment. Review and adoption of minutes for the Feb 23, 2023 meeting. Motion VV, 2nd JB, yes, VV, JB, BK, unanimous approval. As noted, there were no comments from members of the public.

2. Governance, School management.

(a) The auditors from Barre & Co. presented the audit. Again this year, it is a clean audit. BK thanked the auditors, Peter Lanzi and Nicole Corchado for their diligent efforts to continue financial integrity at ICST.

(b) Resolution to approve the 2023-24 budget postponed pending teacher contract resolution.

(c) Report on 2023-26 contract negotiations. BK explained the process to date, AN & MB expressed confidence that the new contract will be settled by the end of this month.

(d) The Department of Ed has cancelled the Start Strong fall assessment.

3. Financial Report and Review of expenditures, income, budget. The reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for January and February 2023 were reviewed and approved. Motion VV, 2nd JB, yes, VV, JB, BK, unanimous approval.

(a) The payroll total for March @ \$115,192.92. Motion to approve/JB, s/VV, yes, JB, VV, BK. Unanimously approved. (b-c) Review & approval of expenditures & resolutions to pay the bills list for February @ \$47,965.81. M/VV, s/JB, yes, VV, JB, BK, unanimously approved.

4. Grants. (a) The first of three Family Learning Nights is scheduled for 3/29, and the focus is Parents as Partners. Monika Egyed, Jessica Duran, Julie Gannon, Linda Abbott, Katherine Palmer, and Sujatha Sridhara will be paid \$350 per program event, totaling a \$6,300 total expense charged to the grant. (b) ARP ESSER performance report is due 3/30.

5. Report on Staffing, Personnel and Employee Issues. (a) The search for a certified ESL/Bi-lingual teacher will open in April. (b) Mark Schlawin conducted an NJSLA Bootcamp workshop to help improve student's math comprehension that was very well received.

ICST Meeting March 23, 2023 (continued)

6. Motion to enter Executive Session to discuss 2023-26 contract negotiations and budget implications. m/JB, 2nd VV. 5:45. Motion to exit executive session at 6:00, m/JB, s/BK, yes, approved. Resolution to approve the 2023-24 budget and submit it to NJDOE. m/JB, s/BK, yes, approved.
7. Status Reports on Legislation, Regulations and significant Litigation. "Under the Gold Dome." As noted above, The NJ Dept of Education has cancelled the Start Strong Fall assessment. No other report this month.
8. Report on School Days, Student Achievement, Attendance and Enrollment. (a) No HIB reports (b) Referral meetings were conducted on 3/6. (c) SY22-23 attendance 92.6%. (d) Enrollment of 109 students is 100%.
9. Report on Facility. MB reported on a small problem: tiny ants in the kitchen. Appropriate steps are being taken.
10. School Operations (a) Staff absences have been minimal, and when they have occurred, the present staff have adjusted smoothly. (b) Fire & emergency drills were conducted in March. (c) We continue to push forward with obtaining air-handling system installation. (d) No update on the school mapping safety program.
11. Old (unfinished) Business. None.
12. Correspondence review, if any. None discussed.
13. Trustee business and announcements. Trustees were reminded to fill out their ethics forms, if they have not already done so. Nicole will issue reminders. Upcoming scheduled BOT 5:15 meetings in 2023: 4/27, 5/25, 6/22, 7/27, and 8/24.
14. BK adjourned the meeting at 6:15 PM.