



INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL OF TRENTON

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

ICST Board of Trustees MINUTES for October 2, 2019

Opening of meeting, 5:30 pm. Trustees participating were, Kim Sdeo (KS, presiding), Bob Kull (BK), and Jason Briggs (JB). Also present were Melissa Benford (MB, chief school administrator), Peter Lanzi (PL, Business Administrator) and David Bosted (DB). Call to Order. Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance. All provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law of 1976 "Sunshine Law" NJ Public Law 231 were met in the scheduling and public notice of the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct regular business of the public charter school.

1) Public Comments. None, no members of the public being present.

2) Minutes. The Minutes of the August 29, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved, having previously been distributed via email. M/JB, s/TO, yes JB, TO, RB, unanimously approved.

3) Governance, School Management. (A) MB reported that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was due for its annual approval. ICST will notify the policy about illegal activity if any is observed in the school. Motion to approve the MOA, m/JB, s/TO, yes JB, TO, RB, unanimous approval.

(B) Motion to re-approve the Dept of Agriculture CAP with slight modifications as part of the School Nutrition Procurement Review, m/JB, s/RB, yes, JB, RB, TO, unanimous approval.

(C) **The 2018-19 HIB score for ICST** has been calculated by MB as 66 of 78 possible points. After review, motion to approve submitting this HIB report to NJDOE, m/TO, s/JB, yes TO, JB, RB, unanimously approved.

(D) **Policy updates**, none at this time.

4) Financial Report and Grants.

(A) The Board Secretary Report & Treasurer of School Monies Report for August 2019 were reviewed. The reports agree and were derived independently. Motion to approve the August 2019 Board Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report, m/TO, s/JB, yes TO, JB, RB, unanimous approval.

(B) The monthly payroll for June of \$95,790.70 was reviewed and approved, m/JB, s/TO, yes, JB, TO, RB, unanimously approved.

(C) Review of expenditures and resolutions to pay bills, approved in the amount of \$43,121.57, m/TO, s/JB, yes, TO, JB, RB, unanimous approval.

(D) **Transfer of funds**, not applicable.

(E) **Grants.** MB reported that both ESSA and IDEA 2019-20 grant dollars are being disbursed. Reports have been filed in a timely way. Students were identified for special services through baseline assessments. MB displayed the enormous gift of school notebooks, composition books, and binders from Walmart. This donation is very large and will benefit the students at ICST for years to come.

Minutes ICST BOT, October 2, 2019 (continued)

5) Report on Staffing, Personnel and Employees. MB reported that the staff is working well during the new academic year. Teachers are focused on student achievement. The Board approved the hiring of Margero Ackerman as Title I teacher in the amount of \$55,517, as per the Teacher's Agreement, m/JB, s/TO, yes JB, TO, RB, unanimously approve. Delta T will provide properly certified teachers to ensure uninterrupted delivery of instruction in the event an ICST teacher is unable to work or scheduled to be elsewhere, m/JB, s/TO, yes JB, TO, RB, unanimously approved.

6) Executive session. None held.

7) Under the Gold Dome. The NJ Charter School Association is reinvigorated under Director Harry Lee. ICST is a regular participant in the NJCSA conference calls. Goals of the NJCSA include

- **FUNDING** Increase Per Pupil Facilities Funding For Charters Decrease the Funding Gap for Most Underfunded/Highest Market Share Districts

- **FACILITIES** Per Pupil Facilities Funding Access to State Facilities Dollars Increased Access to Public Buildings

- **AUTONOMY** 10-Year Renewals for High-Performing Charters ? Flexibility on Certification, Board Training, Lottery Preference for Staff Members' Children, Residency Requirements, Multiple Authorizers, etc. (TBD with Members' Council input)

- **QUALITY GROWTH** Open New Schools Replicate High-Performing Existing School Models.

8) Report on School Days, Student Achievement, HIB, Attendance and Enrollment. MB said that 2019-20 enrollment on the first day was 90 students, and continues to be 90 students. The school atmosphere is good, very positive. Student behavior overall is excellent. Students report that they feel welcome, comfortable, and are making friends. Baseline assessments have been completed. There is a solid start to the academic year, with an excellent school climate and the teachers focused on student achievement. The academic program "Framing Your Thoughts" is having an immediate positive impact. Singapore Math helps to improve math performance however new students find it challenging to master. There were no HIB incidents to report. MB is planning a Heritage Event, and will invite parents to help plan the event.

9) Facility. Lease agreement. MB reported that the ongoing work on the first floor boys bathroom.

10) School operations. MB reported on activities during the new academic year. Two emergency drills were conducted in September. ICST had a successful Back-to-School Night, very well organized with good attendance. The school nurse has begun hearing and vision screenings, and has uncovered nothing alarming so far.

11) Old (unfinished) business. None.

12) Correspondence. None discussed.

13) Trustee business. The first Wednesday of each month at 5:15 is the schedule for most meetings during the 2019-20 academic year. Up-coming meeting dates will be 12/04, 2/05, 3/04, 4/01, 5/06, 6/03, 7/01 and 8/05.

14) Adjourn at 6:00 PM, m/RB, s/TO, unanimous approval.