



INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL OF TRENTON

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

ICST Board of Trustees MINUTES for May 2, 2019

Opening of meeting, 5:30 pm. Trustees participating were Rachel Binz, Kim Sdeo and Bob Kull (BK, presiding). Also present were Melissa Benford (MB, chief school 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 March 28, 2019 meeting were tabled until the next meeting. M/RB, s/BK, yes BK, RB, KS, unanimous approval.*

3) Governance, School Management. *(A) MB reported that Planning for the 2019-20 school year is well established. The report cards are being further revised in order to match the curriculum and expectations for what the students need to learn in each grade. A lot of thought has gone into modifying the curriculum to maximize student learning. (B) The Board reviewed the approved contracted service provider list. The city of Trenton has been added to the vendor list as a transportation provider. Motion to approve m/KS, s/RB, yes KS, RB, BK, unanimous approval. m/RB, s/KS, yes RB, KS, BK, unanimous approval. (C) MB thanked the Trustees for expeditiously filling out the required financial disclosure forms.*

4) Financial Reports and Review of expenditures, income, budget.

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

(B) The monthly payroll for April 2019 of \$89,133.38 was reviewed. Motion to approve this April payroll, m/RB, s/KS, yes KS, RB, BK, unanimous approval.

(C) Review of expenditures and resolutions to pay bills, after discussion of the list (which was distributed electronically for Trustee review prior to the meeting) in the amount of \$45,163.92, m/KS, s/RB, yes, RB, KS, BK, unanimous approval.

(D) Transfer of funds, not applicable.

(E) Grants. MB reported that there is no remarkable new grant information.

5) No executive session was held.

6) Staffing and Personnel. *MB stated that there are no staffing issues to report.*

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7) Student Achievement, Attendance and Enrollment. MB reported that 2018-19 enrollment is at 89 students due to the recent move of a student to North Carolina. There were no HIB issues to report. ICST is seeking to replace that student as well as to recruit for the typical expected attrition of 3rd grade students who are recruited by other Trenton charter schools due to the strong academic reputation of ICST. The school atmosphere at ICST is good, very positive going into the State testing in May. Teachers have maintained their focus on student achievement. However, Springtime always brings the potential for student distraction.

8) “Under the Gold Dome.” Senate Speaker Stephen Sweeney has a proposal that would change retirement benefits for new public sector workers in NJ or those with just a few years of service, a switch Senate Democrats estimate could save tens of billions of dollars over the next 30 years. Police and Fire pensions would likely be exempt but the status of teachers’ separate pension fund isn’t so clear. The idea would be to shift workers from the state’s pension plan to a so-called hybrid plan in which a portion of a worker’s salary would be pensionable, while the rest would go into a 401(k)-style account. Any serious Legislative effort to change pensions has the potential to be disruptive and distressing.

9) Facility. Cooper Pest Control confirmed that a bedbug nymph was captured in a lure. Families and staff were promptly notified and barrier controls were distributed. Daily monitoring of the lures will continue. MB reported on an ambitious program of summer work projects. There has been no re-inspection of the building by the fire inspector. Hall lights will soon need some work.

10) Operations. The State testing called NJSLs will be conducted between May 13-17. Two emergency drills were conducted in April. The 3 year comprehensive Equity Plan is due in June.

11-12) There was no Unfinished business or correspondence discussed.

13) Trustee business. The last Thursday of each month at 5:30 is the schedule for most meetings during the 2018-19 academic year. Up-coming meeting dates will be 5/30, 6/27, 7/25, 8/29. MB provided dates and times for upcoming ICST events. The Music Concert will be May 22 at 10:30 am. Field Day will be at Rosedale Lake in Mercer County Rosedale Park on June 7th. The Completion Ceremony will be Thursday June 13 at 10:30 am.

Adjourn 6:15 PM. m/RB, s/KS, yes, unanimous.