

INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL OF TRENTON

105 Grand Street, Trenton, NJ 08611

ICST Board of Trustees MINUTES for April 11, 2018

Opening of meeting, 5:31 pm. Trustees participating were Bob Kull (BK, presiding), Rachel Binz (RB), Kim Sdeo (KS), 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 March 14, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed including the minutes of the executive session. M/KS, s/RB, yes KS, RB, BK, with JB abstaining for regular meeting minutes due to not having been present at the meeting.*

3) Governance, School Management.

(A) 2018-19 Budget. *The 2018-19 Budget was reviewed. PL said that it closely resembled the current budget with increases in salaries, health benefits and rent, and 12G more State aid. Motion to approve, m/RB, s/JB, yes RB, JB, KS, BK, unanimous approval.*

(B) *MB reported that NJDOE is requiring districts designate a School Safety Specialist, who must attend their (4 day) training.*

4) Financial Report and Grants.

(A) *The Board Secretary Reports & Treasurer of School Monies Reports for February 2018 were reviewed. The reports agree and were derived independently. Motion to approve the February 2018 Board Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report, m/JB, s/KS, yes JB, KS, JB, RB, unanimous approval.*

(B) *The monthly payroll for March of \$87,377.19 was reviewed and approved, m/RB, s/KS, yes RB, KS, JB, BK, unanimously approved.*

(C) *Review of expenditures and resolutions to pay bills, after discussion of individual items, in the amount of \$33,765.10. M/JB, s/RB, yes, JB, RB, KS, BK, unanimous approval.*

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

(E) *Grants. MB reported that the ICST Title I program is effective, as evidenced by several students exiting the program. MB said she is pursuing a 2G school climate transformation grant*

5) Report on Staffing, Personnel and Employees. *MB reported that ICST has a 2018-19 maternity leave candidate.*

Minutes ICST BOT, April 11, 2018 (continued)

6) Executive session. None held.

7) Under the Gold Dome: At a recent Town Meeting, Governor Murphy was confronted with the enormous disparities in State aid to education, especially severe affecting for suburban South Jersey school districts. He did not attempt to explain or defend the disparities but said that districts should not be pitted against one another.

8) Report on School Days, Student Achievement, HIB, Attendance and Enrollment. MB reported that the last day of school is June 19. MB said that Third quarter assessments show evidence of strong student growth school-wide. 2017-18 enrollment is steady at 90 students. But for a small group of students, appropriate school behavior continues to be a challenge. As noted also under "Minutes," the Board has accepted and approved the report of the CSA as presented at the previous BOT meeting that there was specific inappropriate behavior by one student but it did not constitute a HIB incident. M/RB, s/JB, yes RB, JB, KS, BK, unanimously approved.

9) Facility. Lease agreement. MB reported that Negotiations on the lease agreement are continuing. There is no formal response or signed lease agreement from HRC.

10) School operations. MB reported that a fire drill was conducted in March, and a make-up Active Shooter drill was conducted on April 11. Also, Field Trip season is in full swing, with field trips to pre-approved locations including zoo, aquarium, local community gardens, and historical sites. ICST was selected by ISLES to attend the 40th annual community garden horse plowing event, with the plow horses provided by Howell Living History Farm. Some students may not attend a class field trip if they lose too many "tiger stripes" for misbehavior, but overall the school community is adhering to a high standard for academic and personal behavior.

11) Old (unfinished) business. None discussed.

12) Correspondence. MB noted that Ethics form filing is 100% complete, ahead of schedule. MB thanked the Board members for their diligence.

13) Trustee business. The next ICST BOT meeting will be at 5:30 PM on a first Wednesday, 5/2. The schedule of meeting dates for (mostly) first Wednesdays is 5/2, 6/6, 7/11, and 8/1, all at 5:30 PM.

14) Adjourn at 6:22 PM, m/KS, s/RB, unanimous approval.