



INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL OF TRENTON

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

ICST Board of Trustees **MINUTES** for May 25, 2016

Opening of meeting, 5:15 pm. Trustees participating were Bob Kull (BK,, presiding), Tom Ogren (TO), Jason Briggs (JB). Kim Sdeo (KS) participated for items 4-14. Also present were Melissa Benford (MB, chief school administrator), Peter Lanzi (PL) and David Bosted. Call to Order. Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting is held in accordance with NJ Public Law 231, also known as the Sunshine Law. Notice of this meeting and other regular meetings was published in The Times of Trenton and The Trentonian. Public notice for this meeting was also posted at ICST and published in the school newsletter. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct regular business of the public charter school.

1) Minutes. After review, the minutes of the April 27, 2016 regular meeting were approved, m/TO, s/JB, yes TO, JB, BK, approved.

2) Financial Report.

(A) The Board Secretary Reports & Treasurer's Reports for April were reviewed. Motion to approve, m/JB, s/TO, yes JB, TO, unanimously approved.

(B) The monthly payroll for May of \$80,296.57 was reviewed and approved, m/TO, s/ JB, yes TO, JB, BK, unanimously approved.

(C) Review of expenditures and resolution to pay bills for May 2016 in the amount of \$47,116.09. After discussion of individual items, motion to approve, m/JB, s/TO, yes JB, TO, BK, unanimous approval.

(D) Transfer of funds \$2,822.50 from 11-190-100-300 to 11-999-230-100. The transfer is consistent with the approved budget. After discussion, m/JB, s/TO, yes JB, TO, BK, unanimous approval.

Governance, School Management.

(A) MB reported that the Directions and the Format for Renewal documents and the Annual Report have been released by NJDOE.

(B) MB reported that end of year reporting is ramping up even as the school year is winding down.

(C) MB verbally reviewed the contracted services that ICST has used during the past year. All contractors fulfilled their contracts. The Board will review and vote on approving proposed contracted work for the 2016-17 school year at the June meeting.

3) Under the Gold Dome: The "Daily Clips" on the NJSBA website include the evolving story of the State-approved Phillips Academy charter school in Paterson NJ that is looking for a home. The Paterson School District has a vacant and unneeded rental building that the charter school is seeking to rent for about \$184,000 for 45 students. The members of the local school board expressed a wide range of opinions on the sub-lease and did not reach a consensus. The State-appointed Superintendent went ahead and approved the lease to the charter school, creating some controversy. It is interesting that the same hostile anti-charter school opinions and arguments are made today by some opposition school board members as were made 18 years ago when charter schools were new in New Jersey.

Minutes ICST BOT, May 25, 2016 (continued)

4) *Grants. MB reported that the Technical Assistance program on how to do the NCLB/ ESEA grant is scheduled for June 24.*

5) *Report on Staffing, Personnel and Employee. MB reported that letters of intent to return for the SY2016-17 have been returned by all but one teacher.*

6) *Executive session. None held.*

7) *The Trustees discussed the success of "Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week 2016." This year the ICST theme was "Let's Keep Our Teachers & Staff Healthy." BK asked PL and MB to convey the Board's appreciation to Business Manager Nicole Corcado.*

8) *Report on School Days, Student Achievement, Attendance and Enrollment.*

(A) MB reported that the students and staff are still strong on academics and learning as the school years comes to a conclusion.

(B) MB reported that ICST enrollment is full and stable at 90 students. She said that Session II Charter Enrollment report has been filed.

(C) No HIB incidents were reported. There were none between opening in Sept and May.

(D) MB said that the Third Grade will host a Science Fair on Wednesday June 1 at 1:30 PM.

(E) The NJ ASK 4 Science test was administered today. Two students will need make-up sessions.

9) *Facility.*

(A) A fire drill was held and an emergency drill is scheduled to be conducted this month.

(B) Work has been completed to correct deficiencies noted by the fire inspector. Electrical repairs will be made during the Memorial Day weekend to fix the damage to the main electricity conduit on the exterior of the building which was due to an automobile hitting the building. School was not in session at the time.

10) *Correspondence. Discussed under Governance, School Management, (A).*

11) *Old business and school operations. MB is awaiting State guidance and assistance from NJDOE, NJ Dept of Health, and NJSBA on what steps to take to comply with any emerging State requirements on testing for lead in the water fountains. There is concern due to the bad water that was distributed in Flint, Michigan from the Flint River. JB noted that old solder containing lead was the most likely source in this area. In the absence of lead solder, the 15 ppb limit is not likely to be reached from the water in the Mercer County. MB counted four faucets or drinking fountains at ICST from which drinking or cooking water is drawn.*

12) *Opportunity for Public Comments. None, no members of the public being present.*

13) *Trustee business. MB invited the Trustees to attend the annual Field Day at Washington Crossing Park on Friday June 10 and the ICST Completion Ceremony June 14th at 10:30 AM. Upcoming ICST BOT meetings for 2016 will be held at 5:15 PM on Wednesdays 6/29, 7/27 and 8/31. Adjournment. M/TO, s/KS, yes, unanimous approval, 6:18 PM.*