



INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL OF TRENTON

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

ICST Board of Trustees MINUTES for December 4, 2019

Opening of meeting, 5:30 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 December 4, 2019 meeting were approved, having previously been distributed via email. M/RB, s/JB, yes RB, JB, KS, BK unanimously approved.*

3) Governance, School Management.

(A) Annual Audit. *PL reported that the Annual Audit report had been completed but copies for Trustees not yet printed. He expects the audit to be available for the February BOT meeting.*

(B) 2020-2023 teacher contract. *MB reported that negotiations have been completed on a new master contract for teachers. MB and PL reviewed the salary increments with the Board members. The salaries remain very flat and equitable for all teachers. Possibly the next contract negotiations in 2022 will seek greater differentiation between newer teachers from long-term teachers at ICST, but not in this contract. After discussion, The Board congratulated MB on the successful negotiations and unanimously approved the contract for 2020-2023, m/KS, s/JB, yes, KS, JB, RB, BK.*

(C) *MB and PL reviewed the with the Board. All items are satisfactory. Motion to approve, m/RB, s/KS, yes, RB, KS, JB, BK, unanimously approved.*

(D) Policy review. *MB reported that there were no Policy updates as of 12/01/2019.*

4) Financial Report and Grants.

(A) *The Board Secretary Reports & Treasurer of School Monies Reports for September & October 2019, which had been distributed electronically, were reviewed. The reports agree and were arrived at independently. Motion to approve the May 2018 Board Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report, m/BK, s/KS, yes KS, BK, JB, unanimous approval.*

(B) *The monthly payrolls for October \$95,720 and November \$94,336.09 were approved, m/KS, s/RB. Yes, KS, RB, JB, BK, unanimously approved.*

(C) *Review of expenditures and resolutions to pay bills, after discussion of individual items, final bills lists for October \$54,854.63 & November \$44,774.64. M/JB, s/RB, yes, JB, RB, KS, BK, unanimous approval.*

Minutes ICST BOT, December 4, 2019 (continued)

(D) Transfer of funds, not applicable.

(E) Grants. MB reported that ICST will receive a School Safety Grant of about \$2300 to implement a rapid alert system.

5) Report on Staffing, Personnel and Employees. MB reported that it is a pleasure to work with the motivated team at ICST. There were no other personnel matters at this time. A snow day was taken for a storm that was intensifying during the day (and no one complained).

6) Executive session. None held.

7) Under the Gold Dome: NJCSA is emphasizing advocacy. Harry Lee, NJCSA executive director, has indicated that a PAC will be created soon to support legislative candidates who understand and support charter schools. Pertaining to advocacy, he has said "the loudest voices win." The Legislature is now working on a new School Facility Funding bill, and the NJCSA goal is to have charter schools included. For the past 20 years there has been no school facilities funding for charter schools. Facilities funding would free up money for teachers and student learning. NJCSA has a survey of CS funding needs. To date, 2/3 of CSs have entered data into the survey.

8) Report on School Days, Student Achievement, HIB, Attendance and Enrollment. MB said that the current enrollment is 90 students. The October 15th ASSA report was completed and reflects the 90 students at ICST. 96% of report card meetings are done, the rest are scheduled.

9) Facility. Lease agreement. MB discussed the repeated power outages in the neighborhood. Two outages in two weeks. The first resulted in the main server becoming permanently disabled (see below item 10).

10) School operations. MB reported that power outages blasted through the firewalls and ruined the server. Repairs are complicated and time-consuming. Two emergency drills have been conducted in November. Active shooter drills are especially frightening to children. MB said that about 60% of hearing and vision screenings are complete. MB invited the Trustees to the December school music concert.

11) Old (unfinished) business. None.

12) Correspondence. None discussed.

13) Trustee business. Coming BOT meetings: 2/5, 3/04, 4/01, 5/6, 6/3, 7/1, and 8/5, at 5:15. The next ICST BOT meeting will be at 5:15 PM on 2/5.

14) Adjourn at 6:10 PM