

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting Minutes - APPROVED

Date:	Time:	Roles & Attendees
04.11.18	5:30pm	<u>Facilitator</u> - Chris <u>Minutes</u> - Milly <u>Norms</u> - H. Doughty <u>Timekeeper</u> - K. Gregoire
Attendance: K. Gregoire, S. Smith, H. Doughty, S. LaFrance, R. Muckle, D. Howes, L. Muller, C. Jones, B. Crouch, R. Learned Guests: C. Pemberton, M. Booker, Nylah Lloyd (6th grader), Mirza Allgood (8th grader), C. Baxter, visitor, M. Barron, Linsey		
ISAAC Mission Statement: <i>We inspire our students through the arts, communication, and exploration in a collaborative, multicultural community to be courageous citizens who are difference makers.</i>		

Norm	Description
Find joy in the work.	We will find joy in the work by communicating positively and using humor as appropriate to help us work better together. - 6th grade
Be productive and present (phones, technology).	We will be productive and present by becoming familiar with materials before we arrive and by being attentive to behaviors which affect physical and mental engagement.
Maintain a growth mindset even in disagreement.	We will maintain a growth mindset by pushing ourselves to be learners, probing for deeper understanding, and taking risks and time for reflection.
Actively and respectfully listen to all perspectives	We will invite and welcome the contributions of every member and listen to each other by attending to the "7 P's of Collaboration:" promoting a spirit of inquiry, pausing, paraphrasing, probing, putting ideas on the table, paying attention to self and others, and presuming positive intentions.
Give kind, specific, and helpful feedback.	We will communicate in a collegial and honest atmosphere by pushing each other's practice, being pro-active, and grounding our thoughts, feelings, and opinions in evidence in order to find solutions.

Agenda	Time (min)	Notes
Welcome: Agenda review, norms, roles, Mission statement, approve minutes for previous meeting	5	Minutes from March Heather - abstaining (not present at last meeting) Others - approved
Public Comment	10	
Student Report	10	<p>Mirza Allgood, from Norwich, 8th grader. At the multicultural event everyone got to know each other and where they are from. Got to know others better rather than stay in their comfort zone. Awsome event, if we could do it again, it would be wonderful.</p> <p>Nylah Lloyd, from New London, 6th grader. The multicultural event was special for her because she could know about traditional wear from other countries. It is a blessing for here to be here and at the multicultural event. To prepare, had to wake up early on Saturdays for rehearsals. It was very amazing. What did you learn from yourself? Nylah, I am a model. Learned a lot of things about other countries.</p> <p>Most memorable event of the evening? Nylah to see the smiles on her parents' faces and the audience. To see everyone together in one room. People who didn't even know each other sitting at a table, were speaking with each other and</p>

		<p>getting to know each other.</p> <p>Ms. Muller read her post on facebook about the success of the night. C. Jones shared that all the seats were taken. It was wonderful.</p> <p>Something at our school is diversity. We are crew not passengers.</p>
Executive Director Report	20	<p>Reported that Mirza went to the state capitol to advocate on behalf of public transportation. Nylah has been doing a lot of our morning announcements. David shared a slideshow.</p> <p>Celebrating High Quality Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Immigration Project. Went to the capitol last week and received an award. Student Ayana Fernandez accepted the award. Books are on sale for \$20.00. City council is one of the stops that will be considered. ● Multicultural Event Fundraiser ● SBAC this week - tests don't matter as much as the mastery of knowledge and skills that is taking place at the school. ● Lottery last 4/4/18. Total 188 applicants. 125 Eligible because some submitted an application but did not attend an Info Session or vice versa. Banner displayed at the Crystal Mall, buses driving around with our ad. Christine explained the process for the lottery which has been electronic since last year. ● Celebrations and Appreciations: Ayanna Fernandez, Adwoa Bandele-Asante and Nina Cabilin, Gloria Lora and Debra Sargent and Ms. Milly. ● Upcoming Dates and Events ● Block Party, 5/19/18 ● Heather purchased an Ad for the Multicultural Event and would like to do so for the Music Man. BOD members asked for donations.
Academic Excellence	10	<p>Discussed chronic abseteeism numbers, ISS & OSS numbers. Discussed challenges for heavy hitters. Some students struggling with attendance. Daily average attendance rate is 94.06%. Around 30 students with around 30 absences each. DCF has been notified. Discussed setting up mentors for some of the students. Confussion on Interim Assessments on the part of the students because of all other testing that takes place. Discussed more during today's staff meeting.</p> <p>EL Credential Process: Submitted claims, were accepted, revised those and are working in teams: strong character, knowledge of skills, and high quality work. Will present in August to EL committee to state why we should be an EL credentialed school. In September we would know their decission. The National Conference is in November (9,10&11) and that's when we would be presented to EL an a credentialed school.</p>
Development	10	<p>Grants: Pending grant for the music program. Waiting to here back.</p> <p>Buck Foundation - advocacy positions in schools (right now they will have this program in New Haven only, hopefully in the future will come to this part of the state). Kyle and Heather went to a training last night. They were provided with different tools.</p> <p>Construction Bond to alleviate construction debt. Sumitted last Friday.</p> <p>David and Kyle will discuss about art.</p> <p>Dime Foundation and Bowdenwein to be invited to the Block Party since they helped fund some clubs.</p> <p>Friends Wall that might give us exposure.</p> <p>Teacher and parent from IPAT discussed the prospect of creating an educational foundation for this school. David and Christing went to a meeting at IDCS and found that they have a similar foundation that will be discussed further as to what to do and not do. We have an endowment at the Community Foundation where we can start to put money.</p> <p>Building connections - name tags, business cards, etc., to pass</p>

		along.
Finance	10	<p>Sharon passed out handouts. On track for this year for the rest of the year. No issues observed that we need to be concerned about. Amazed how we are able to continue to move forward thanks to Christine and David. Sharon promises that before the next meeting she will have the reports ready prior to the meeting. At this meeting the Administration presented their projected proposed budget. On 4/25 we will have the budget workshop, the board will present the budget to staff, parents, etc. There will be time for questions, answers and concerns. Note that there is a 0% increase from last year's budget. Christine and David went through the entire budget to determine where there would be decreases. The 7th grade Social Studies teacher has resigned and we will not be filling that position. David presented a brief summary of changes to the budget, especially in staffing. It is amazing what ISAAC is accomplishing considering the funding we receive from the state, considering that ISAAC gets approx. \$5,000.00 less per student than public schools.</p>
Governance	10	<p>Focusing on board recruitment, executive committee nominations and upcoming teacher director and parent director. Teachers can self-nominate themselves. We there is more than one, then there will be an election. This month nominations can be submitted for the executive committee. Write their name on a ballot and hand to Heather. This is the last year that Sharon can be the treasurer. If no one is interested in being the treasurer, the bod bylaws can be ammended if Sharon wants to stay one more year. Heather is appreciated that Mildred Rivera is now taking the board minutes and she is more able to participate in the actual meeting. She looked into this arrangement, and found that there is no problem in having someone other than the Secretary to take the minutes. Heather will continue to perform all other duties as Board Secretary. Recruiting for legal, academics, communications and fundraising.</p>
Executive Committee	10	<p>Met today. Discussed some personnel issues and will have more to report next month.</p>
New Business	10	<p>Strategic Planning update: blowing up the timeline considering having and actual plan before the beginning of the upcoming school year. But, think that it will be more realistic to set a date of late fall or early winter. Based on trainings just had through NECSN they should wait to have student data, survey data, etc, which won't be available until the summer. Also, should wait until a BOD retreat in which they will come up with goals. At that time, they can start to developing their strategic operating plan. Immediate next step is to distribute a survey (which is almost finalized) to families, parents, etc. Get people's thoughts about ISAAC for the future. Have the actual survey in hard copy to have available for the big events coming up like the musical, COL, etc. An idea is to have students to approach adults and ask them the questions using a Chrome Book. It is hard to say no to a middle school student. One board member is able to host a board retreat at a Mashantucket Museum space. Lee reported on the board training. She has been in different boards and had never been to a board training. She is very pleased that she went. Questions that she might have had were addressed. She feels more knowledgeable about how charter schools run. Had the opportunity to break into groups to find out how other charter schools operate. The use of dashboards was discussed and found very helpful. David enjoyed meeting and talking to the Odyssey School previous director who is not retired. Sharon was impressed as to well we are doing in regards to the things we are supposed to be doing. Our board is very strong. Heather took away that it is very important for bod members to be very familiar about our charter. When talking to others, should be able to address questions. Board members are supposed to get formal training. Discussed board goals and rolling them down to the committees. The board could do a better job on transparency; the</p>

	<p>bod members should communicate the same way. Lead our conversations on how our students do is what the bod strives for. How can we as a board be more involved with students in a more direct level? -Kyle G. To think about. Chris J. says that the bod members should strive to be present at the different events. Any board members who wished to adopt is crew is more welcome to do so, could mentor a student, could come for a tour, organize a board learning walk, etc. Board members invited to the EL Implementation Review. At events, have name tags identifying the board members so that students and parents know who they are. Mike B. mentioned that are areas of expertise that board members could share in different classes and also attend community meetings and speak as to what do as members of the board. Mr. Booker has a mentoring program for young men.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.</p>
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Next Meeting Date:	5.9.18	Next Meeting Time:	5:30pm
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