



GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES - Special Meeting

Meeting of Friday, July 17, 2020 5:30PM

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“Providing a strong educational foundation to all students who are in need of direction and support in learning English and finding their way in a new culture.”

Mission: Iftin Charter School provides students in grades TK-8 an academically rigorous, common core aligned curricula, supplemented with a technology intensive program in a student centered, safe and caring learning environment. ICS addresses the needs of a diverse group of students, their families and communities by building on the strengths of the students’ cultural heritage and life experiences. ICS students are educated and enlightened to become successful, lifelong learners and valuable members of the global community.

WELCOME GUESTS / CALL TO ORDER 5:35PM

Roll Call

Faisal Ali_____	President present
Joe Udall_____	Secretary present
Mulki Hersi_____	Treasurer present
Rahmo Abdi_____	Member absent
Ibrahim Hassan_____	Member present

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC COMMENT— Anyone wishing to address the Board on agenda, non-agenda, and/or Closed Session items may do so. Individual speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes. Total public input on any one subject may be limited to fifteen (15) minutes, and may be extended at the discretion of the Board Chairperson. Comments on an agenda item may be taken when the agenda item is discussed by the Board. Comments on non-agenda items will be heard before the Consent Motion.

No Public speakers

CONSENT ITEMS

Faisal Ali: First item on the agenda is to approve consent items. Do I have a motion to approve board meeting minutes for June 19 and June 26, 2020?

Ibrahim Hassan: I motion

Joe Udall: I second.

Motion Hassan Second Joe Ayes Hassan Abdi Ali Hersi Udall Nays N/A Abstain N/A Absent Abdi



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DISCUSSION ITEMS

Faisal Ali: I would like to welcome Cara from the NCUST team and the administration team to discuss NCUST services for the 2020-21 school year.

Ali Hori: First I would like to thank the NCUST team for their great service to Iftin Charter. This school year, we've become very successful in developing professional development for all staff with a focus to provide a clear, relevant and data driven outcomes. I appreciate all the support from Cara and Dr. Johnson.

Our Partnership with NCUST, National Center for Urban School Transformation will provide training focused on best practices to support teachers in ensuring a productive collaboration and, increase academic achievement. The training focuses on mapping curriculum to common core standards, implementation of formative assessment and differentiated instruction. Our goal is to accelerate academic achievement in English Language Arts and Mathematics

Faisal Ali: Thank you Mr. Hori. We understand that NCUST is important to our school. Could you please anyone from Admin highlight the specifics of the agreement. In comparing last year agreement, it seems that we've doubled. Please share any data, how it impacted the school and to understand better why it doubled and what you are trying to achieve.

Ali Hori: This is a legitimate questions Mr. Board president. Our services for the 2019-20, NCUST provided 8 hours monthly to Iftin Charter. The make-up these hours include providing professional development to all staff, training for leadership training and coaching the Instructional Leader. We understand that our needs have grown and we feel that additional time and support will make our programs more success, especially in the areas of professional development.

Yolande Charles: I would like to express my deep appreciation for the NCUST team. We started planning for the 2020-21 school year and mentoring of the leadership team. Our outcomes have improved significantly, we are reporting 95%of staff retention. Our school culture has shifted toward a positive environment. Very few behavior referrals. Our instructional practices focus on areas of clarity, student engagement, mastery and progress monitoring and positive school culture.

Ibrahim Hassan: This pandemic took all of us by surprise. We have many families who are not computer literate. How will this organization continue its services during the distance learning?

Faisal Ali: Thank you Mr. Ibrahim, Joe had another question to add, and maybe we can answer them collectively.

Joe Udall: I am a big fan of NCUST. It has really been a game changer for our school. As board, it is our fiduciary responsibility, and we have to uphold the budget.

Faisal Ali: We understand how much value NCUST brings to our campus. Please welcome Cara.

Cara Riggs: Certainly, when you double the amount of a contract, you want to have the conversation of where we've been and what our ideas are to move ahead. We believe more support for Iftin, in the previous contract I was able to only do 8 hours a month. We believe doubling services will make a high impact.



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Cara Riggs: We are an organization that gets to study, promote and award the best practices of America's highest achieving urban schools in a manner that supports urban districts in transforming teaching and learning.

We've determined campus-wide focus areas and professional development around instruction: Clarity of focus, focus on mastery, assertive monitoring and checking for understanding, high student engagement and positive and healthy classroom culture.

Teachers are clear to students about what they are expected to learn and understand by the end of each lesson. Learning objectives should be posted, referenced multiple times, and students should be able to articulate what they are learning.

Teachers are guided in their planning by the State Standards. They work collaboratively to plan and design lessons that are focused on the standard and include elements in the lesson that ensure that most students get to mastery after the first teach. Students who struggle are given immediate intervention. Students who master the skill early, are given enrichment opportunities.

Teachers use multiple methods throughout the lesson to monitor whether both the class as a whole, and individual students are comprehending and showing evidence of early understanding of the concept being taught. They use that monitoring data to determine who needs extra support or if the concept needs to be retaught. Teachers are intentional about knowing early who gets it and who does not; There is no hoping or guessing.

Teachers collaboratively plan and design lessons that insure high levels of student engagement in every lesson. Students are actively involved in the lesson with a variety of opportunities to have discourse with their peers. They work in groups with clear tasks where all students have a role in the process of the task. There is enthusiasm and excitement evidence in the observation of their speaking, listening, writing and learning. Observers witness more student talk than teacher talk.

Teachers have created a classroom environment where students look forward to be a part of. There is mutual respect between the teacher and students, and amongst all students. The classroom has its own clear understanding around values. Procedures and routines are evident. Progress and achievement is celebrated. The room is bright and welcoming, clean and organized as a place where students want to learn. The Iftin staff has determined the "Iftin Model Classroom," with all of the elements on the list as a goal for every classroom.

We are creating a culture where teachers are observed and given feedback by leadership. Through this process, teachers are becoming more confident in their instructional skills... they are improving... they appreciate the feedback and are becoming a staff that is willing to share and grow together.

The coaching of teachers leads to quality instruction that will be reflected on their appraisals. We don't get better unless we receive safe practice with actionable feedback.

We know that magic happens when teachers work together rather than working in isolation. Collaboration around planning effective lessons based on the rigor of the State Standards is crucial. The Iftin staff has begun to use their collaboration time using the best practices of effective PLC's.



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Cara Riggs: Iftin teachers receive ongoing, monthly professional development in the areas specified as the instructional focus. They also receive growth opportunities around creating a positive culture in their classrooms. The time is dedicated to teachers continuously growing and learning as a team. The topics are meant to improve their performance in the areas of focus and help them become more confident and skilled at all they do in their classrooms.

In the new proposed agreement, we will provide continued work around team approach, Leadership and NCUSGT will dedicate more time in classrooms, observing, giving feedback and supporting teachers with the purpose of building capacity via coaching, safe practice, peer observation, etc.

Also, regular monitoring of various forms of progress data to drive decisions for next steps in the improvement process. NCUST staff will assist the Iftin staff in the process of creating the new teacher appraisal process.

Lastly, NCUST staff will conduct an Equity & Excellence audit that will give us a look at Iftin through the lens of what happens in high performing urban schools we have studied and awarded. A report with findings and recommendations will be written and shared with the Iftin school community.

Faisal Ali: How would we do an equity audit, given the current pandemic situation and virtual model of instruction.

Cara Riggs: Unfortunately, we cannot perform equity audit virtually, but we can certainly conduct the audit when we return back to full instruction.

Faisal Ali: Thank you for your time Cara. We will now move to the next item. Resolution to establish a fund 62.

Abdi Mohamud: Under Iftin's new authorization under SDCOE, we will need to establish a new treasury account, and establish a contract with SDCOE for independent charter school retirement reporting.

Iftin will need to establish a new treasury account that falls under the SDCOE umbrella so that future retirement payments, and state revenue apportionments can be processed. SDCOE does not have the ability to process transfers to the existing Iftin treasury account under SDUSD. In order to do that the board will need to approve a "Resolution to Establish a Fund 62"

Also, Under the authorization of SDCOE, we will report our retirement files directly to SDCOE.

Faisal Ali: Thank you Abdi. If anyone has questions feel free.

Faisal Ali: We can now move on to the next item on the agenda. Student technology equipment.

Abdi Mohamud: As you are all aware the distance learning and the demand to have devices available for all students. We wanted to ensure that if we go into the hybrid model, we would have devices available at the school site and while allowing students to have devices at home.

Faisal Ali: How many quotes do we have for these purchases?

Abdi Mohamud: We have only one quote from CDW-G, same vendor we have used for almost 3 year.



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Faisal Ali: The reason why I asked, we require at least a minimum of three quotes. Before we consider making purchase that exceeds ten thousand dollars.

Action Item

Faisal Ali: First action item is to approve (NCUST) National Center of Urban School Transformation services. Do I have a motion?

Ibrahim Hassan: I motion.

Joe Udall: Can we motion to table the item?

Faisal Ali: Ok. Do I have a motion to table Item A to next board meeting?

Mulki Hersi: I motion.

Joe Udall: I second.

Motion Hersi **Second** Udall **Ayes** Ali Hersi Udall **Nays** Hassan **Abstain** N/A **Absent** Abdi

Faisal Ali: Do I have the motion to Resolution to Establish a Fund 62?

Joe Udall: So, moved.

Ibrahim Hassan: I second.

Motion Udall **Second** Hassan **Ayes** Hassan Ali Hersi Udall **Nays** N/A **Abstain** N/A **Absent** Abdi

Faisal Ali: Do I have a motion to table item C. CDW-G quote until next meeting?

Joe Udall: So, moved.

Mulki Hersi: I second.

Motion Udall **Second** Hersi **Ayes** Hassan Ali Hersi Udall **Nays** N/A **Abstain** N/A **Absent** Abdi

Report to Open Session

Reportable Action: None

Advance Planning

The next regularly scheduled Governing Board Meeting is to be held **on Friday, July 31, 2020** at 5:30 pm.



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Adjournment 6:56 pm

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Office of Iftin Charter School at (619)265-2411. Notification of 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the School to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to that meeting (28 CFR 35.102.35.104) Additional questions can be sent to Operations Manager, Abdi Mohamud, at Mohamud@iftincharter.net