

**INTERNATIONAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Thursday, June 20, 2019, 8:00 a.m. PDT
Santa Fe Station Hotel, The Boardroom
Las Vegas, NV**

OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

On June 20, 2019, at 8:06 a.m. PDT, 2018–2019 Board President Bernadette Dwyer called to order a meeting of the Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association, which was held at Santa Fe Station Hotel, Las Vegas, NV.

Board Directors in attendance were 2018–2019 President of the Board, Bernadette Dwyer; Vice President, Kathy Headley; Immediate Past President, Douglas Fisher; Board of Directors Juli-Anne Benjamin, Beverley Harris, Kenneth Kunz, Stephanie Laird, Susan Paasch, Stephen Peters, and Julia Reynolds; and Executive Director, Marcie Craig Post.

Absent were Jennifer Williams and Wendy Carss.

Staff in attendance included Debbie Harris, Director of Finance and Wendy Logan, Recording Secretary.

CONSENT ITEMS

The following items were presented for consent:

- Approval of minutes from May 5, 2019
- Acknowledgement of ILA Award and Grant Committee recommendations for 2019 recipients
- Acknowledgement of Early Literacy Committee Report
- Acknowledgement and ratification of election results certified by Intelliscan, Inc.

S. Peters motioned to approve the consent items as presented. S. Laird seconded the motion.

D. Fisher made a friendly amendment to remove the May 5, 2019 minutes from the consent items and was seconded by S. Peters. The May 5, 2019 minutes were approved with D. Fisher abstaining.

Resolved: *The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association approves the minutes of the May 5, 2019 meeting.*

S. Peters motioned to approve the remaining consent items as submitted. S. Laird seconded the motion.

Resolution: *The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association approves the consent agenda.*

LITERACY LEADERSHIP BRIEF ON PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

S. Paasch motioned to approve the Literacy Leadership Brief entitled, *Phonological Awareness in Early Childhood Literacy Development* as submitted by the Early Literacy Committee. The motion was seconded by S. Peters.

S. Paasch expressed gratitude and extended commendations to the committee for their hard work.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Resolved: *The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association approves the Literacy Leadership Brief, Phonological Awareness in Early Childhood Literacy Development as submitted by the Early Literacy Committee.*

REVIEW OF FINANCES

D. Harris presented a review of the financial statements as of April 30, 2019, reporting that the ratio of liabilities to total assets is at an appropriate level of 39%, which reflects minimal debt. It was noted that compared to the same time last year, revenue is nearly equal, and expenses are lower by approximately \$220,000. It was also reported that actual revenue is less than budgeted revenue by \$200,000.

REPORT ON INVESTMENTS

The investment portfolio has seen a 5.7% increase during the first three months of 2019. The long-term growth rate remains steady at 6.8%.

K. Headley proposed a motion to suspend the Board-established asset allocation policy/strategy for the purpose of enabling ILA's investment manager, Glenmede, to diversify the investment portfolio with reasonable probability of achieving return objectives as well as allowing for the needed cash reserves for ILA.

The motion was seconded by K. Kunz and approved unanimously.

Resolved: *The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association approves the suspension of the Board-established asset allocation policy/strategy to enable Glenmede to diversify the investment portfolio.*

APPROVAL OF ILA FY19–20 BUDGET

K. Headley proposed the approval of the FY2019–2020 budget, and the motion was seconded by S. Peters.

J. Reynolds stated that the discussion regarding partnership between Board and staff to raise money for the FY19–20 budget year should be duly recorded and that the partnership efforts should be monitored by the Finance Committee throughout the year.

There being no further discussion, the resolution to approve the FY19–20 budget as presented was put to a vote. The resolution was approved 9 -2, with D. Fisher and J. Reynolds voting against.

Resolved: *The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association approves the budget for FY2019–2020.*

The Board and staff discussed ways in which they could work together to generate additional funds, including but not limited to sponsorship and reorganization, to further reduce the deficit and B. Dwyer suggested that a such a joint effort be undertaken.

S. Paasch motioned to for the Board and staff to undertake a fundraising effort to raise \$250,000. The motion was seconded by B. Harris and was approved with D. Fisher and J. Reynolds abstaining.

Resolved: *The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association approves a joint effort of the Board of Directors and staff to raise \$250,000 in FY2019-2020.*

MOTIONS OF APPRECIATION

Douglas Fisher

B. Dwyer, 2018–2019 Board President, expressed the ILA Board of Directors' deep gratitude to Dr. Douglas Fisher. During his most recent service to the Board of Directors Doug served as Vice President, President, and Immediate Past President. During his term Doug selflessly served the Association at state, national, and international levels.

The Board recognizes Doug's leadership capacity, his ability to listen and to honor the voices of all participants in discussions at board level while concurrently providing insightful comments and analysis to steer board decisions. During his tenure as an officer of the board he successfully sought sponsorship for a range of ILA awards.

Doug has an encyclopedic knowledge on issues related to literacy and his expertise and contributions to the field of literacy were recognized in the William S. Gray Citation of Merit. He is a passionate advocate for equity and equality of opportunity and has worked tirelessly through extensive publications, presentations, committee and taskforce work to realize the mission of ILA. The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association expresses its sincere appreciation to Doug Fisher for his most valuable contributions to the board and to the ILA organization from 2016 to 2019.

Stephen Peters

S. Paasch, member of the Board, expressed the ILA Board of Directors' sincere appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Stephen Peters. Dr. Peters is experienced in many, many different aspects of education. He has been a classroom teacher, assistant principal, principal, director of secondary education and currently a superintendent. He used his experience, knowledge and expertise to help guide ILA during his three years on the board. Dr. Peters continually brought the attention of the board back to ILA's mission and what ILA should be doing to make an impact on the literacy world. His focus on equity, along with changing and sustaining school culture, has helped create meaningful change in the education world. He has helped to make equity a top priority for ILA. Dr. Peters also worked to make ILA an organization that provides top quality professional development to school administrators.

During his time on the board, Dr. Peters served on a number of committees for the board, including Governance, Evaluation, Investment and Finance.

Dr. Peters has represented the Association at numerous national literacy conferences and is one of the most sought-after speakers in the United States. He is also an author and a mentor. The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association expresses its deep gratitude to Dr. Stephen Peters for his many valuable contributions during his service on the Board from 2016 to 2019.

Stephanie Laird

B. Harris, member of the Board, expressed the ILA Board of Directors' deep gratitude to Stephanie Laird for her invaluable service as a Board member from 2016–2019.

Stephanie, a lifelong learner with a keen interest in Professional Development has proven to be a literacy advocate with the appropriate skill set to make things happen. From Board members' perspectives she is seen as a quiet soldier that commands no attention but, is responsible for winning wars. Her support for ILA at state, national and international levels is commendable.

In her first year as Board member, Stephanie served efficiently as a member of the Evaluation Committee and subsequently served actively on the Investment Committee, Conference Program Committee, ILA Membership Committee (special committee), ILA Regie Routman Teacher Recognition Grant Committee and the Digital Literacy Committee which all benefitted from her insightful comments. She has been Chair of the Audit committee.

Stephanie's high level of interest in literacy has created the catalyst for her involvement in a number of Task Forces to date. Credentialing - Practice Analysis Task Force and the U.S. Network Task Force have both benefitted from her service.

The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association is pleased to have been associated with Stephanie Laird, Board member–At large, with sterling service from 2016 to 2019.

Jennifer Williams

J. Reynolds, member of the Board, expressed the ILA Board of Directors' sincere appreciation and gratitude to Jennifer Williams. During her three years on the Board, Jennifer taught all of us about being a calm, dedicated, passionate advocate for local and global literacy for children and adults. Her genuine demeanor and collaborative spirit helped bring together ILA members across the world to share challenges to literacy instruction and to plan innovative approaches to supporting children, teachers, and families. Jennifer showed us the power of technology and social media to broaden our reach and to build professional networks infinitely with unlimited possibilities for partnerships. She kept sight of the organization and the members she was elected to represent by focusing on innovation and advocacy for the right to literacy for all. In addition, Jennifer served on a number of committees for the board including the Governance, Investment, Conference Program, and ILA Network committees. She served on the Children's Right to Read Task Force and as a contributing author of the upcoming Children's Rights to Excellent Literacy Instruction statement. She was a member the ILA Global Taskforce and a contributing author to the ILA Statement on Equity. Jennifer presented on a variety of literacy topics, while representing ILA at numerous national and international conferences and during online professional learning opportunities. The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association expresses its deep gratitude to Jennifer Williams for her many valuable contributions during her service on the Board from 2016 to 2019.

Jennifer Williams, who was unable to attend, submitted a letter of personal thanks to the Board.

B. Dwyer motioned to commend and extend sincerest thanks to Doug Fisher, Stephen Peters, Stephanie Laird and Jennifer Williams for their dedication to ILA's mission and service and contributions as members of the Board of Directors. The motion was seconded by K. Headley and approved unanimously.

RESOLVED: *The Board of Directors of the International Literacy Association hereby commends and extends sincerest thanks to Doug Fisher, Stephen Peters, Stephanie Laird and Jennifer Williams for their dedication to ILA's mission and service and contributions as members of the Board of Directors.*

ADJOURNMENT

Being that there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. PDT.

NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 8, 2019, 7:00 a.m. EDT

Virtual meeting via Zoom