

**ISU Laboratory Schools
Laboratory Schools Advisory Council
University High School, Library
April 8, 2025, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

Zoom Link: <https://illinoisstate.zoom.us/j/93037439346>

LSAC Members

Liz Austin (end term 2026)	Tim King, Booster Representative
Megan Bozarth (end term 2026)	Lyndsey Carney, PTO Representative
Christine Chiodo (end term 2027)	Katherine Smith, Faculty Representative
Meredith Diaz (end term 2025)	Andy Goveia, Faculty Representative
Mike Jones (end term 2026)	Antonio Causarano, ISU Representative
Heather Marshall (end term 2025)	Anthony Jones, Director
Kathy Murdoch (end term 2027)	
Ryan Scritchlow (end term 2027)	
Jeremy Wilcox (end term 2025)	

I. Call to Order @6:07pm

II. Roll Call

A. Present- Anthony Jones, Chrisitne Chiodo, Katherine Smith, Andy Goveia, Ryan Scritchlow, Mike Jones, Megan Bozarth, Heather Marshall, Meredith Diaz, Liz Austin, Kathy Murdoch, Lyndsey Carney,

B. Absent- Jeremy Wilcox, Tim King, Antonio Causarano

III. LSAC Purpose

- A. To assist the superintendent in maintaining a viable relationship between the Illinois State University Laboratory Schools and the University, community, and State regulatory systems
- B. To provide recommendations regarding both short- and long-term goals of the Laboratory Schools
- C. To promote parent and community representation on committees as determined by the superintendent
- D. To provide a liaison between the administration, faculty, and parents of students attending the Laboratory Schools

IV. Minutes of Prior Regular Meeting

- A. Discussion
- B. Approval of Prior Regular Meeting [Minutes from March 4, 2025](#)
 - 1. MSP- Jones/Bozarth (U) Abstain- RS, KS

V. Announcements

- A. Redbird Educator Teaching Award: April 4
 - 1. Crystal Patterson won the Lab School Award
- B. UHigh's Prom: May 2
 - 1. Location- Miller Park for Prom and after prom is at U-High
- C. Teacher Appreciation Week: May 5-8
- D. [The How and Why of Laboratory Schools Book](#)
- E. The Anxious Generation Book Study Reminder after meeting - 7 pm-8 pm
 - 1. Discuss next steps and how many other sessions we will meet

VI. Reports from the Director

A. Facilities Update- Metcalf's Playground

1. Mulching today and there will be a ribbon cutting Tuesday, April 15th at 9am.

B. Arizona State University Education Workforce Site Visit Update

1. Visited the last week of March- Dr. Jones, ISU Faculty, and Lab School Faculty
2. Encouraging to see the university and school working to improve working conditions for teachers- especially collaboration
3. The Lab School representatives visited the different areas and schools that were of interest to them
4. Dr. Jones discussed the kindergarten area that is unique in that it is open and organized in pod -it's not one model fits all, make it your own and take what you can
5. The Dean provided extra funds for the staff to attend this visit
6. Struggles schools encountered:
 - a) When you add or group more students together
 - (1) 84 students in one space
 - (2) Paras and teachers in space
 - (3) Multiple meetings with stakeholders to explain the new process
7. Metcalf is thinking about trying out with 1st and 2nd grade-
 - a) Dr. Bergman talking to staff and trying to get teachers to visit a similar school setup to tour
 - b) Freshmen block teachers visit similar school set up as well
8. Q- We are sending teachers and faculty to visit schools, but are other schools and districts? What do other people come to us to visit, hear about, and see how we are doing it?
A- Yes, it ebbs and flows. The pandemic put a stop to this. Andy said there are visitors coming into Metcalf a little bit more now. Dr. Jones says we show up, do our work and go home. We need to promote circus, Outdoor Ed, 9th grade academy, etc.
Murray State came to visit before COVID, pandemic, lack of marketing, we are not doing anything to promote "us".
9. While in Arizona, Dr. Jones talked to the retired superintendent, she asked herself what was keeping her up at night? Teachers overwhelmed, burnt out, underpaid, students with multiple needs, how to support teachers to support students, teacher shortages
 - a) Solution- it is a retention problem- team based staffing model- encouragement, working with community. Need to pay for additional knowledge base, saw great improvements

C. Redbird Educator Capital Advocacy Day Update

1. 4 students from HS, 5 Metcalf, 2 faculty associates to visit a couple state legislators.
2. There are a lot of people in Springfield that don't know we exist. They did not know ISU had the Lab Schools.
3. Andy's take- We are wasting our time if we go and ask for 2 new buildings, need to work across campus, need to reach out for other

fundings, legislators said to keep coming back and talking to us. We do a great job at doing what we need to do with the current funding. We can't move past our mission in our current state. Information packets passed out to all representatives who are in the Lab School geographical area, even if they were not in the office that day. We have to sell an investment opportunity and take a big swing.

4. Continued discussion about what reps are in our geographical location, ideas, and next steps. We need to continue to advocate for the Lab Schools. Concern- we are the lowest funded state university and our per student funding is lower than the average.
5. Discussion back to ASU visit- moved above under VI, B, 9
6. Dr. Jones- Have to provide teachers with the time to do professional development, he likes the current models now

D. Survey update

1. Discussion about results- why there were so few, do we need to change up the timeline, it's not explicitly being communicated about the themes being addressed or changes
2. Discussion about how we can let parents know we value this feedback, the trends, and the opportunities
3. The Metcalf Survey- low response rate-They would like to do a parent workshop to analyze the data, mirror the process the staff did in school, suggestions and action steps. Trends were noticed in the data.
4. Have we identified how many families are?
 - a) 826 families-Metcalf 350, U-High 548 (looked at residence-households)

E. Family Forum- A new date?

1. Still working on finalizing the dates looking to get psych from both schools to attend. Dr. Jones wants to share the vision statement and other things with families if psych can't make it.

F. Updates New Hires

1. Asst Principal named - Brian Rohman

G. LSAC Elections- 3 seats will be open

1. ISU Rep- need to reach out and speak to COE, Metcalf will try to get person before break if not they will be here in August, U-High will decide in May (will probably be KS again)
2. Discussion about whether we need to change the cadence of LSAC and not meet monthly. Should we go back to every other month?
3. Open discussion about the LSAC meeting and Lab School faculty role

VI. Open Discussion

- A. Table the cadence of the LSAC meetings and what role the faculty advisors have (a singular representative or co-position)
- B. Board of Trustees- ISU General Revenue Funds-anything cosmetic is Lab School pays and other outside cosmetic is ISU. What was the vote in Feb of 2024? Were new funds allocated or approval of existing money. Dr. Jones will get clarification. What does "Our money" mean?
- C. Q-Summer school at U-High?
 - A- From the HS guidance counselor- At this point, we are not sure if we will have any summer classes and probably won't know that until April/May-ish. If we do, they will definitely be communicated out to parents/students.

VII. LSAC Meetings for FY 2025

- A. **Dates:** May 13th, & July 8th
- B. **Time:** 6:00 – 7:30 pm
- C. **Location:** UHS Library or via Zoom

VIII. Next Meeting Date: May 13th from 6:00 – 7:30 pm

IX. Adjourn @ 7:32 pm

- A. MSP- Austin/Jones (U)