

**ISU Laboratory Schools
Laboratory Schools Advisory Council
University High School, Library
December 10, 2024, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

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

LSAC Members

Liz Austin (end term 2026)
Megan Bozarth (end term 2026)
Christine Chiodo (end term 2027)
Meredith Diaz (end term 2025)
Mike Jones (end term 2026)
Heather Marshall (end term 2025)
Kathy Murdoch (end term 2027)
Ryan Scritchlow (end term 2027)
Jeremy Wilcox (end term 2025)

Tim King, Booster Representative
Lyndsey Carney, PTO Representative
Katherine Smith, Faculty Representative
Andy Goveia, Faculty Representative
Antonio Causarano, ISU Representative
Anthony Jones, Director

-
- I. Call to Order @6:03pm**
- A. Present-** Dr. Anthony Jones, Jeremy Wilcox, Antonio Causarano, Christine Chiodo, Katherine Smith, Heather Marshall, Megan Bozarth, Meredith Diaz, Kathy Murdoch, Liz Austin
 - B. Absent-** Andy Goveia, Mike Jones, Ryan Scritchlow, Tim King
- II. Roll Call**
- 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 November 12, 2024](#)
- V. Announcements**
- A. Snow Globe Wishes: A Metcalf Family Event
 - 1. Friday, December 13th 5-6:30pm
 - B. Winter Break & Finals
 - 1. Break- Dec 21-Jan 5, 2026
 - 2. Finals- Dec 18 & 19
 - C. Calendar Committee Meeting - Feb 4 is the next meeting for the committee
 - D. Upcoming LSAC vacancies-
 - 1. We will have 3 seats open, applications will go out late April, apps due early May

VI. Reports from the Director

- A. Alumni Directory Follow-up
 - 1. Dr. Jones reached out to ISU Alumni/Foundation and they let him know they do not publish one anymore
 - 2. Discussion about history of Lab School Alumni Directory
- B. Updates E-Learning Plan
 - 1. This plan is on pause right now. There are some parameters we need to have in place before we can take the next steps. Some things to consider the school BSWs(union & labor relations), need to work more with HR on the items we have to consider. We need to have the specifics in front of HR to make sure we are not drastically changing the working conditions. Also, need to consider HILIA.
 - 2. Group discussion about snow days vs. e-learning, parent responsibilities, student absences, past anxieties, logistics
 - 3. Side discussion- Attendance letters see below open discussion
- C. Country Financial Tour
 - 1. New ISU College of Engineering off GE Road
- D. Facility Updates (Metcalf's playground, Science Lab renovation, etc).
 - 1. Playground- projected to be done after spring break
 - a) Funds secured- yes
 - b) Fundraising- Raising funds were for the Zipline and spiderweb
 - c) This was an unexpected need that came up and Dr. Jones wanted to make sure to put
 - d) Warranty- are we purchasing this?-Yes it will come with the safety checks
 - e) Q-Why weren't parents told ahead of time about the Giving Tuesday amounts and what the funds are for?
 - (1) Could have been the strategy of foundation & may not have time to form the message from when the playground information came in
 - (2) Dr. Jones wants to make sure we are aware of how much we are asking for from parents? As much as we can take care of things and the budget will cover then we need to use those funds first (needs vs. wants)
 - 2. Chemistry Labs-begins August 2026
- E. Lab School Budget- link in shared Drive
 - 1. The Lab schools have been requested for fees we have not been asked to pay before or fees raised (football field, swimming pool, soccer field, other facility requests)
 - 2. Q-In the budget what do you think is taking the largest hit?
 - a) Building/facilities
 - b) Building up for contingencies after we meet building needs
 - c) Then look at other opportunities for staff development, Dr. Jones likes to get the staff out to the facilities instead of telling them about the experience
 - 3. Q- any staffing cuts?
 - a) Program and not necessarily staffing
 - b) Priority list of expenditures
 - c) Do more with less

VII. **Open Discussion**

- A. Follow-up with Family Survey
 - 1. Discussion about letter to go out to families ASAP- (in shared drive) MD updated during the meeting. HM will need to get us the LSAC email address to include
 - 2. Data and Action steps that will be attached with the letter
 - 3. Dr. Jones has shared the data with building staff, they are working through the results
 - 4. Lab School staff returning email discussion-
 - a) Multiple emails going out, emails not being acknowledged
- B. Absence letters after 10 absences- discussion about the letter and language sent to families . Families are not aware this is a State of Illinois requirement.
- C. The Anxious Generation book-a shift in parents, schools, etc
- D. Skyward at Metcalf they have eliminated the discipline tab
 - 1. A parent can call to request the child's discipline record if wanted
 - 2. Dr. Jones and Dr. Bergman are aware parents know the tab is gone
 - 3. Parents are asking that when there is a change of process/practice we are notified
 - 4. If the district is saying they are trying to be transparent then let us know about the changes or why
- E. The shared mailbox- LSACemail@ilstu.edu

VIII. **LSAC Meetings for FY 2024**

Dates: January 14th, February 11th, March 4th, April 8th, May 13th, & July 8th

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Location: UHS Library or via Zoom

IX. **Next Meeting Date:** January 14, 2025 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm

X. **Adjourn @ 7:27pm**