

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:05p.m.

Attendees: Darnell Thigpen Williams, Sherley Bretous, (Executive Director, ex-officio), James Becker, Bruce Ward, Ivy Washington, Dehlia Umunna, Deborah Del Dotto, Charline Alexandre-Joseph, Jeneper Gooding.

Visitors: Barbara Brothers, Afterschool.

Absent: Lin Tucker, and Deborah Del Dotto.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Bruce Ward, Jimmy Becker, and Darnell Thigpen Williams have decided to step down from the Board after many years of service.

Bruce Ward motioned to approve the April minutes, Darnell Thigpen Williams seconded the motion, all approved.

Board Business:

- **Financials**

The school is heading towards the end of the year and everything still looks good with the surplus, and there is nothing major to report. There is a capital project starting with the windows that have to be replaced in the school building. Then facilities would like to complete a few small projects. Teachers would like more privacy because students sometimes enter their current space in the teacher lounge. The teacher lounge will be moved downstairs to accommodate teacher's privacy. The new SPED offices will be moved into the old space. The school has enough in the surplus in the budget to cover these expenses.

- **Board Assessment**

The Board has completed their survey with 100% completion.

A suggestion for next year is that the members to plan a retreat that involves the staff and team building.

Another suggestion is to complete Board Bio's to put up on the website.

The Governance structure for next year changes with Ivy Washington being the Chair, Deborah Del Dotto will remain Vice-Chair, and Shane Buker will become the Treasurer.

Jeneper Gooding and Charline Alexandre-Joseph will be out on maternity leave in the fall so we really have to recruit some new members.

The Executive Director survey was sent out yesterday and it is important that the Board achieves 100% participation on this survey also.

Dehlia Umunna motioned to approve Milton Mohammad Masud as a new Board member, Ivy Washington seconded the motion, all approved.

- **Civil Right Policy**

Jimmy Becker motioned to approve the amended Civil Rights Policy, Bruce Ward seconded the motion all approved.

- **Board Meeting Dates 17-18**

The Board reviewed the upcoming Board dates for the next school year and approved.

- **Accountability Plan**

The plan has to be sent in to DESE.

Bruce Ward motioned to approve the Accountability Plan, Jimmy Becker seconded the motion, all approved.

Executive Director's Report:

- **School Update**

The Adventure Club is ten years old this year and has grown from a program that students went on an adventure three times a year to a program that goes on adventures twice a month. The students love it. The STEAM Expo is Tuesday, June 6th. Sixth grade graduation is Friday, June 16th. The kindergarten graduation is June 20th. The K-2 Show is on Wednesday, June 14th. The Banneker Carnival is Saturday, June 3rd.

- **Barbara Brothers Afterschool**

The afterschool program-limiting factor is space and staff. There has been an overwhelming response from parents on how much the program is needed. The program could easily take another 30 to 40 students. Our program is one of the cheapest in Cambridge so it is definitely in demand.

The program has decided to increase the price from \$11 per day to \$15-\$18 per day and a lot of our families can get vouchers.

The after-school activities include band, dance, karate, stage, chess, cooking, astronomer's club, and DEI lab. DEI lab started in Brookline by all black males. It is a two-hour session with Legos, and it challenges the students to learn to build.

Bruce Ward motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jenepher Gooding seconded the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.