

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2018

Meeting called to order at 5:05p.m.

Ivy Washington, Sherley Bretous (Executive Director, ex-officio), Deborah Del Dotto, Shane Buker, Charline Alexandre-Joseph, Jenepher Gooding, Janel Granum, Lin Tucker, and Michelle Crawford.

Absentees: Josiane Julmeus, Dehlia Umunna.

Visitors: Tyrone Mowatt, Gloria Mylyk, and Cynthia Goncalves.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Ivy Washington motioned to approve the February minutes, Charline Alexandre-Joseph, seconded the motion, all approved.

Board Business:

- **Financials**

Review financials for this month's surplus.

- **Board Bio's**

*Reminder will be sent out about Board Bios, a small bio on "Why did I join the board"?

What do we bring to the Banneker as a Board?

Sherley Bretous (Executive Director, ex-officio)- member of Banneker 22yrs and started here as a teacher. Then Curriculum design, Administration, Assistant Principal, and Executive Director. Sherley's favorite role is being a parent.

Ivy Washington- First encountered the Banneker through her mom. Ivy attended the afterschool class "Cooking Matters" and participated with the students. Ivy is a Cambridge native and feels very fortunate to find a Board opportunity in her Cambridge community. Ivy is currently the Director with Head Start Early Education.

Deborah Del Dotto- Started teaching in community college, her whole life has been in education. "A teacher's work is never done". Deborah became a Principal, then started working for Collaborative Educational Services. She has been on the board for 4yrs. She is officially retired but has been working as a Curriculum Specialist in Special Ed. Deborah would love to get her grandchildren into Banneker.

Shane Buker- Shane is a scientist in a start-up Biotech company. He is very interested in the STEM aspect in Banneker. Shane would like to become a science teacher and make science fun for kids.

Charline Alexandre-Joseph- Darnell Williams introduced Charline to the Board. Charline remembers going to an induction to a mentor program as a student at Banneker. Charline is in management for afterschool programs with teens, helping teens to a successful pathway. Her past employment has been in nonprofits, and fundraising.

Jenepher Gooding- Jenepher joined the board 3yrs ago as a Parent Representative and now serves as a regular Board member. Jenepher is a property manager for the Public Housing Authority in Cambridge.

Janel Granum-Janel came here because Charline introduced her to Banneker. Janel fell in love with Sherley's passion with the Banneker. Janel has taught science and is originally from New York. Janel relocated to Massachusetts for employment and to continue to teach. Janel is currently doing curriculum design with young people to help get them in to technology jobs.

Lin Tucker- Lin is a former Banneker science coordinator, and then joined the Board shortly after retiring. Lin has a strong connection to STEM. Lin works in a research group called “Making Learning Visible” and has worked as a coach all over the world via online teaching.

Michelle Crawford- is a parent to student here at Banneker. Michelle has worked in DSS. Michelle works at Children Services of Roxbury which is a service agency that supports children that need individual/group therapy. Michelle is currently a school-based manager to Boston Public Schools and some Charter schools in Boston to help further support families.

Cynthia Goncalves- Currently works as consultant in the business office here at the Banneker. Jimmy Becker taught her everything about the Board. Cindy loves the family community at Banneker.

Executive Director’s Report:

- **School Update**

Upcoming events- Spring concert and Spaghetti Dinner.

- **Budget planning presentation**

The Board wants to make responsible decisions and wants the school to function properly. Eventually the school would like to own our own building. The school manages spreadsheets that interconnect with how we spend the money, and we rely on historical trends and anticipate future trends. The school thinks about the Board, Administration, Faculty, students and we look into the future to make a five-year plan. Our process is based on historical data, fixed costs, the rent, transportation, salaries, and professional development. Our priorities are around STEM, staffing, enrollment, and new trends.

We try to estimate the per pupil revenue: understand the formula, trends in surrounding districts, what has your historical rate been? The budget should align with the school Mission and values.

The budget is then generated and presented to the Board for approval.

Looking into the future our goals are to own the building, ideally expanding and incorporating kinder-care, and building a media lab.

Proposed budget will be emailed out, alongside with Mr. Mowatt’s presentation.

Presentations:

Presenter: Tyrone Mowatt- Marketing Director.

Board Retreat Presentation

The Charter school movement, and it’s many levels. How does Banneker fit in to that?

Banneker is a Commonwealth Charter which follows the second school structure. (refer to handout)

The Banneker Experience:

Banneker is a STEAM school (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) committed to excellence.

The school offers a supportive and stimulated educational environment. The school has concerned community leaders, parents, and educators. The Banneker community supports their students as if they were their own children.

Mission and Vision

The Banneker is an urban K1-6 STEM School, committed to excellence in education. We believe all students can excel as learners and citizens when provided a rich, supportive, and stimulating educational environment.

The Banneker is the inspiration of concerned community leaders, parents, and educators, with the common vision and purpose of providing all Cambridge and local youth, regardless of race, culture, language, or socioeconomic status with a high-quality education.

Lin Tucker motioned to adjourn the meeting, Deborah Del Dotto seconded the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

