

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm.

Sherley Bretous (Executive Director, ex-officio), Deborah Del Dotto, Shane Buker, Charline Alexandre-Joseph, Jenefer Gooding, Janel Granum, Josianne Julmeus, and Michelle Crawford.

Visitors: No visitors

Absent: Lin Tucker, and Dehlia Umunna.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Michelle Crawford motioned to approve the September minutes, Josiane Julmeus seconded the motion, all approved.

Board Business:

- **Financials**

Everything so far in the fiscal year 2019 budget matches the forecast. Comparing this year to the actual budget there is 8 more students from Cambridge, 10 more from Boston, and 5 more from surrounding areas. It is all good news. There is no change to tuition rates yet.

There is a surplus, and the state requires we don't have much of a surplus so we have to keep an eye on it, we can't exceed 20% of our operating budget.

- **Audit**

The school received an unmodified opinion on the audit and that is the best opinion you can get. That means all the statements, and the paperwork they received, they checked, and they agreed with. The school had no findings, no issues, no material weaknesses, and no significant deficiencies.

On the DESE website under charter school finances our school has all green lights, which means we have no problems, and we are in the low risk category. A lot of charter schools don't have enough surplus on hand, and that puts them in a high risk category.

Our school has 4.2 million in Vanguard, which makes the school is in a very healthy place financially.

Shane Buker motioned to approve the audit, Josiane Julmeus seconded the motion, all approved.

- **Governance Committee**

Two candidates have sent their resume to the school and Ms. Bretous will give them a tour of the school.

Charline Joseph Alexander motioned to approve Deborah Del Dotto as the next Board Chair, Shane Buker seconded the motion, all approved.

Josiane Julmeus motioned to approve Shane Buker as Vice-Chair, Charline Joseph Alexander seconded the motion, all approved.

Executive Director's Report:

- **School Update**

Jennifer Gordon won the Milken Award which is considered the “Oscar” in Education. They gave her \$25,000 to use any way she wants, and a trip to New Orleans in the spring. The Commissioner of Education came to the school and presented Jennifer Gordon with the check.

Ms. Bretous received the Administrator of the Year Award from MassCue. Some of our students went to MassCue to present their work in Minecraft with Mr. Perrine, and they did a great job.

Author's Breakfast is November 1st. The students love the Author's breakfast because they share their writing with their parents in the form of a book. K-2 will start at 8:00am, and grades 3-6 will start at 8:30am, and will be over at 9:30am. November 1st is also an early release day.

The next parent meeting will be about anti-bullying, and cyberbullying.

- **MCAS Presentation** (Molander Etienne and Tasheika Johnson)

This presentation is on ELA, Math and Science MCAS. There is a new accountability system from the state around MCAS. Targets are set for all students, and lower performing students which is about 25% of the student population. Targets are set based on last year's MCAS performance.

The school has control over student achievement (67%) and student growth (23%), but not absenteeism which is (10%).

In grades 3-6 this is the percentage of students who are meeting and exceeding expectations. Third grade is (62%). The fourth grade is (69%), The fifth grade is (58%). The sixth grade is (87%). The Banneker school has exceeded Cambridge and the State in three categories. Three percent of our students are not exceeding expectations.

In sixth grade our students had the best performance at (87%) meeting or exceeded expectations in ELA.

Science MCAS-Grade 5 students we have 42% Advanced, 36% Proficient, 13% Need improvement, and 9% Warning. (Banneker 78%), we out performed (Cambridge 50%), (State 51%) and (Boston 20%) in Advanced and Proficient.

Math MCAS- Meeting and exceeding expectations, our (Third grade 57%), (Fourth grade 58%), (Fifth grade 57%) and (Sixth grade 81%) did really well. Banneker out performed Cambridge, the State, and Boston, in meeting and exceeding expectations. Banneker scored lowest in partially meeting expectations, and not meeting expectations.

Josiane Julmeus motioned to adjourn the meeting, Michelle Crawford seconded the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.