

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm.

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

Visitors: No visitors.

Absent: Dehlia Umunna.

Janel Granum motioned to approve the minutes for October, Shane Buker seconded the motion, all approved.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Board Business:

- **Financials**

We are four months into the twelve month year. The forecast is aligned with the budget.

The school is trying to get the lease in the same cycle as our Charter, so the school will be doing a two year extension with a five year lease. The school has a good relationship with the church, they set aside \$50,000 a year for us to do improvements.

The school gets very hot in May, and the building is old and can't sustain window air conditioning. The cost to rewire every classroom would be \$18,000 per classroom. If we decide to do a floor at a time it would be less money, maybe \$13,000 per room. The school wants to make sure that if we invest that kind of money that we will be staying here for a long time. The church is considering doing a lease for us for twenty-five years, we would have to renew every five years. It is still under negotiation but we would like to have this approved by July.

- **New Board Members**

There are two members that would like to join the Board. Preeta Banerjee has met with Ms. Bretous and they went on a tour of the school. Preeta really liked the school, had a lot of ideas, and is very excited about joining the Board. Preeta stayed for about two and a half hours and loved the students and didn't want to leave. She would be a great asset to the school. Preeta will be at the December Board meeting and hopefully she will be voted in then. Reverend Brown was suppose to come in for a tour but had to reschedule because one of her parishioners had a heart attack and she had to rush to go to the hospital. Reverend Brown will reschedule her tour for after Thanksgiving.

Executive Director's Report:

- **School Update**

The school had Curriculum Night on Tuesday night 11/13. We are trying to bring curriculum to life. All the teachers decide on a topic and create a game to do in their classroom. It ranges from the art teachers

having them paint or making snowflakes, first graders sharing their coding, and Mr. Best doing minute challenges. Fourth grade does habitats and Mr. P does robotics. The students travel room to room to see what is going on. It is always a really great turn out.

The next thing that is coming up is our fourth grade musical on November 20th. Then we have character day on 11/21, the half day before the holiday. The school has a parade and the teachers, students, and staff wear costumes around a book figure or their halloween costume.

The school has started the Christmas gift giving program. The school has sent out the letters to the parents and once we determine what families are going to participate, and what they need the school will send out a list of students, their age, and what they would like for the holiday.

Next year we are going to align the Thanksgiving holiday with our farmer's market to offer food to some of our parents in need.

DESE will be here on December 6th and there will be a Board Focus Group in the morning. They will ask questions about our Mission/Vision. There should be 5 Board members attending.

- **Brothers/Afterschool Presentation**

The afterschool bases the program on the students needs and goals. Ms. Brothers wants the students to explore many hobbies and ideas that could possibly become careers. This is a perfect age for them to learn lots of different things. They don't have the attention span for a full year program, and shorter programs keep their attention longer.

Ms. Brothers challenges the staff every year to come up with a minimum of one hands on activity based on our spacing and activity. She has staff that thought they were never going to be interested in science but they are taking this on, and getting very excited about it.

"Beginning" training starts right at the start of the school, and then there is COI training, Abuse and Neglect, Mandated Reporting, 5 Rights of Medication Administration, Autism Society, Playground Supervision and many more.

Yesterday was the chess festival with BBN high school students. Kindergarten children worked on Thanksgiving holiday art. The afterschool students have challenges by homework, ESL, some are below grade level, some are energetic, shy, or need quiet, and we need plenty of space for their different needs.

- **Beyond School Hours** is a PD at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta, Georgia from February 20-23rd, 2019. The nation's premiere conference for educators and leaders serving K-12 students in school, afterschool, summertime and beyond.

Charline Joseph-Alexandre motioned to adjourn the meeting, Josiane Julmeus seconded the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

