

**BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**  
May 21, 2015

**Meeting called to order at 6:00p.m.**

**Attendees:** Darnell Thigpen Williams, James Becker, Sherley Bretous Carre' (Executive Director, ex-officio), Atinuke Diver, Ivy Washington, Dehlia Umunna, Lin Tucker, Jean French, Lenora Jennings, and Anita Burke-Johnson.

**Visitors:** Gloria Mylyk, business office, and Anesta Hicks, technology.

**Absent:** Bruce Ward, and Deborah Del Dotto

**Public Comment:**

There were no public comments.

*Atinuke Diver motioned to approve the April minutes, Ivy Washington seconded the motion, all approved.*

**Board Business:**

- **Financials**

The financials are a little different from last month. The enrollment and tuition rates are the same. Surplus spending will be detailed at the June meeting. Facilities, technology, health insurance, and another third grade in the forecast will be discussed at the June meeting.

- **Budget 2015-2016**

The two budgets scenarios that are being discussed is (number one) that is 3% raise for off scale employees (pink sheet) and (number three) is a 3% raise for off scale employees and a 1% increase to scale (blue sheet).

All non-teaching staff is off scale, some teachers who have passed the last level on the scale are now considered off scale, also administration, and facilities are off scale. Over the summer we would like to hire someone to look at the scale and compare it to other scales that schools are using. Look not only the staff compensation but also their benefit packages to see how it compares to ours.

*Lenora Jennings motioned to approve the 3% off scale increase, ( the scenario one budget), Dehlia Umunna seconded the motion, all approved except one, James Becker opposed.*

- **Board Goals**

The Board is developing their goals for next month, and deciding what goals will remain for next year, and what to replace or change. The HR Committee will take part in hiring a consultant this summer to do a compensation study.

The Development Committee has been problematic and is not functioning well. The Board needs to rethink the Development Committee and its goals. The school needs a committee to help with the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration not a fundraising committee, so now the Development Committee will be transitioning to the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Committee.

- **Board Governance**

If anyone is interested in taking on the Chair roll for next year please call Darnell Thigpen Williams. The Governance Committee should consider contacting one of the members about being Vice-Chair.

Pam Ogletree is interested in joining the Board again since she is retiring in June. The Chair will reach out to her and see if she is interested in rejoining the Board in September.

A real estate or marketing person would be a great addition to the Board. The Board needs to discuss what additional skills or talents they need from future members.

## **Executive Director's Report:**

### **School Update**

STEAM Expo will be Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am-1:00pm and then from 5:30-7:30pm.

1. Next year we have enrolled 144 Cambridge students with total enrollment at 347 students. The school has 19 Cambridge applicants that haven't responded. In the summer we always get some Cambridge applications. There will be three third grade classrooms next year.
2. Ms. Danahy's kindergarten class has won the DuPont Challenge Science Writing Competition-Elementary Division. The kindergarten entry "Penguins" was selected from hundreds of entries across the United States and Canada. As a grand prize winner DuPont will host a "Science is Fun Day" in the fall here at the school. Ms. Danahy will receive prizes for the classroom, plus an expense paid trip to the NSTA Conference on Science convention in Nashville, TN.

### **Social Studies (Anesta Hicks)**

Ms. Hicks needed a starting point so she focused on geography, (the where). Where do we live, where did or is history happening, and why is this important? Why is it important to know about South America or Africa? Fourth grade started off with continents, regions, climates, and bodies of water.

Grade six chose China to highlight because its influence on the western world, Buddhism, and agriculture.

Sixth grade made an iMovie about the "Celebration of Chinese New Year".

Kindergarten through second grade focused on community.

The goal for next year is to have a better understanding of how the tools of technology can assist in students learning about the world they live in.

*Ivy Washington motioned to adjourn the meeting, Dehlia Umunna seconded the motion, all approved.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.