

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2014

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

Attendees: Darnell Thigpen Williams, James Becker, Sherley Bretous Carre' (Executive Director, ex-officio), Atinuke Diver, Ivy Washington, Deborah Del Dotto, Anita Burke-Johnson and Dehlia Umunna.

Visitors: Justin Martin, director of external relations, and Gloria Mylyk, school accountant.

Absent: Lin Tucker, Jean French, Bruce Ward, and Lenora Jennings.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Jimmy Becker motioned to approve the September minutes, Deborah Del Dotto seconded the motion, all approved.

Board Business:

- **Financials**

The biggest change in the financial statement is the enrollment numbers. Last year we had a total of 343 students with 112 students from Cambridge. This year the school has enrolled 348 students with 128 Cambridge students. The budget is 115 Cambridge with a total enrollment of 350.

The current forecast is at a 120 Cambridge students with total enrollment at 346 students. The school is losing Cambridge students because parents are moving out of Cambridge due to real estate prices.

- **Board Roles and Responsibilities**

Will discuss at November's meeting.

- **Board Goals**

The goals for this year will be discussed in detail at the next month meeting.

Executive Director's Report:

School Update

The Board is proposing to change May's meeting from May 28 to May 21st and will vote on it next month. The DESE recognized the school for the third year in a row for narrowing the proficiency gaps and high progress with a certificate of achievement.

- **MCAS Presentation (Ms. Etienne)**

ELA

The discussion is about classroom data, grade level data, and our shift to PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers). Third grade comparison from 2013 to 2014, the performance has a healthy increase of 17 percentage points in *Proficient* or *Higher*. There is a small increase in *Warning*, but that amounts to two students.

In the 2013 the fourth grade had 46% proficient or higher, in 2014 the fourth grade is 73% proficient or higher, showing significant gains. The numbers are great all around for fourth grade, the *Needs Improvement* category dropped from 43% to 23%. In the fifth grade the school basically remained the same with a one point loss or gain. In the sixth grade there was a dip in the *Proficient or Higher* and the *Warning* category was 5% compare to 0% the 2014. The school out performed Cambridge and Boston in ELA.

When using PARCC testing there are two assessment windows, and MCAS we just had one. The first assessment window will be in March and April. The students will be asked to perform three different tasks, three different sessions, and each session is timed. There will be end of the year assessments in May.

MATH (Ms. Sherak)

A whole school comparison was done in math performance. In 2013 the school had 59% *Proficient or Higher*, in 2014 *Proficient and Higher* was 62%, going up 3%. In 2013 *Advanced* was 23% and in 2014 the school went up 2% bringing 25% to *Advanced*. The scores in *Warning* went down 2% from 2013 to 2014.

Ms. Bretous clarified that the school was beginning to focus on comprehension of math and developing writing in math. The shift around math has been comprehension and being able to articulate the *why* and *how*. We want students to be able to articulate what they understood, and with math it is not always arriving at the right answer, it is about the process.

Jimmy Becker motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ivy Washington seconded the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.