

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2015

Board meet and greet 6:00-6:30pm.
Meeting called to order at 6:35p.m.

Attendees: Darnell Thigpen Williams, James Becker, Sherley Bretous Carre' (Executive Director, ex-officio), Bruce Ward, Atinuke Diver, Ivy Washington, Lenora Jennings, Jean French, and Deborah Del Dotto.

Visitors: Gloria Mylyk, school accountant.

Absent: Lin Tucker, Dehlia Umunna and Anita Burke-Johnson.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Atinuke Diver motioned to approve the March minutes, Bruce Ward seconded the motion, all approved.

Board Business:

- **Financials**

The current financials are similar to last month. The forecasted tuition revenue includes DESE March projected rates. There still is a substantial surplus of \$368,602. There is a shift in Cambridge reimbursement rates. The per pupil reimbursement rates have gone down for Cambridge students about \$2,000 per student. Enrollment is up in Cambridge and enrollment in Cambridge Public Schools has increased substantially which is why the per pupil tuition rate has gone down.

- **Budget 2015-2016**

There are three budget scenarios. (Reminding members that the employees on the scale will receive a 5% increase automatically) The first one (pink sheet) is an increase of 3% off scale only. The second scenario (green sheet) is a raise of 2% off scale and a 1% increase to scale. The third scenario (blue sheet) is a 3% off scale and a 1% increase to scale. The projected enrollment has a big impact on how the budget looks. The forecast for FY15 shows 125 Cambridge students with a little bit of attrition and we are budgeting for a 135 Cambridge students for next year. The scale can be beneficial for budgeting but the scale can be problematic for us. If we keep increasing the scale eventually we will bottom out. The Board suggests hiring a consultant to look at the scale provide some analysis. There was a law that passed in 2014 that states because we are a Cambridge charter school we can't take in more than 20% of Boston students, and we are capped out of Boston, and some of our surrounding cities. Banneker and CCSC are the only two schools in this position. CCSC was renewed with conditions because they didn't have a five-year plan, as part of our Charter Renewal we have to have a five-year plan that talks about how to bring our Boston population down and get our Cambridge students up. The school is applying for renewal and putting our five-year plan into our renewal so we can be renewed without conditions.

- **Board Self-Evaluation**

Out of eleven Board members ten completed the self-assessment. The assessment helps to determine the Board goals for the following year.

- **Conflict of Interest Law**

Board members have signed the receipt for the Conflict of Interest Laws and have committed to take the test online.

- **Cambridge Applications**

The Board requested information about the Cambridge waitlist versus applications. They wanted to know who was invited into the school, how many decided to come to the school, and then who didn't come in. The school received more Cambridge applications last year than this year, but we do get a lot of applications from Cambridge over the summer months. Sometimes we can't take Cambridge students because the grade they apply for is full, and sometimes they are too young.

Executive Director's Report:

School Update

We finished PARCC two weeks ago and the end of the year PARCC will start next week with end of the year testing in ELA and math. Fifth grade will take the MCAS for science.

STEAM Expo is coming up in June and the carnival is Saturday, June 20th. Graduation for kindergarten @9:00am and sixth grade @ 6:00pm will be on Wednesday, June 24, 2015.

- **Charter Renewal Application**

The charter renewal application is due August 1, 2015. The application will be considered incomplete without the Board signatures and votes. The application will be presented to the Board for approval at the June meeting. There are two things that are on our application that is different from any other application. The two things are kindergarten enrollment, because the age of our kindergarten students, we need to do an amendment, and the second is the five-year plan. As part of our Charter Renewal we have to have a five-year plan that talks about how to bring our Boston population down and get our Cambridge students up. The school is applying for renewal and putting our five-year plan into our renewal so we can be renewed without conditions.

Deborah Del Dotto motioned to adjourn the meeting Jean French seconded the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.