

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2020

Meeting is being held remotely due to the Coronavirus Epidemic

Meeting called to order at 6:08 p.m.

Sherley Bretous (Executive Director, ex-officio), Deborah Del Dotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Janel Granum, and Josiane Julmeus.

Visitors: N/A

Absent: Tirsit Habetariam and Jenefer Gooding.

Public Comment: N/A

Shane Buker motioned to approve the minutes for February, March, and April, Janel Granum seconded the motion, all approved.

Board Business:

- **Financials**

The financials are basically the same as last month. There was some savings in nutrition costs and MCAS afterschool costs. Consulting costs went up \$20,000 because of people out on disability.

- **Budget**

Enrollment and tuition rates make up about 90% of the revenue, so every year we try to increase our Cambridge enrollment. This year we are budgeting our enrollment for Cambridge at 190 which is very conservative since we currently have 193 Cambridge students enrolled. The school was told that tuition rates could remain the same as last year so we are budgeting accordingly. The only expense that will increase is giving employees a 4% raise which should create a break-even budget.

The school is not increasing the scale this year but will give the raise.

Janel Granum motioned to approve the budget as discussed here tonight, Shane Buker seconded the motion, all approved.

- **Board Meeting Dates**

The Board has accepted the meeting dates for next year. The Board will meet on June 11th to approve the Charter school renewal application to the state. The application is due July 31, 2020.

Lin Tucker motioned to approve the meeting dates for next year, Shane Buker seconded the motion, all approved.

Executive Director's Report:

- **School Update**

This upcoming year is going to look a lot different. There wasn't a kindergarten screening this year and all our school events have been cancelled.

The Charter Renewal application is usually about 100 pages but they changed it to be about 25 pages. Now it is very clear about what they want. The school has a five-year plan and DESE is giving us a lot of leeway because of the epidemic and they realize that people can't meet like they did before. Our biggest concern about renewal is Cambridge enrollment. The school doesn't want them to mandate a number so we don't want to be renewed with conditions. Prospect Hill Academy and CCSC have been renewed with conditions because of their numbers. Banneker's argument will be that our numbers continually improve, and if we were to get to 100% Cambridge student's we couldn't sustain ourselves because Cambridge doesn't have 100 seats available.

Graduation for sixth grade will be on June 12, 2020. The school has hired a company to put up a big screen in the parking lot. The school is allowing one car load per student, and when they pull in the parking lot, they will face the portico of the school. There will be speeches and videos of the students through the years at Banneker. The parents can watch the screen and tune into a channel on FM radio. The school will be giving each student a North Face backpack, and in there will be their diploma's and awards that we give out. The ceremony will be live streamed lived for anyone who wants to see it.

In terms of next year and opening up school there are three scenarios, A) Go back to school business as usual except we have to stay six feet apart, students eat in the classroom, hand sanitizer, and water bubblers in every classroom. The school is working on putting dividers up on every desk, masks for everyone, and thermometers to take students temperatures. Also. we are working with the bus company to limit how many stops we have so we can take temperatures before the students get on the bus. B) Half the class is in the classroom and half the class is learning remotely. C) Is that school won't open until January.

Shane Buker motioned to adjourn the meeting, Janel Granum seconded the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.