

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2021

Meeting is being held remotely because of Covid.

Meeting called to order at 6:06p.m.

Sherley Bretous (Executive Director, ex-officio), Deborah DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, and Josianne Julmeus.

Roll call taken for attendance, Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, and Josiane Julmeus.

Visitors: N/A

Absent: Tirsit Habetarium and Janel Granum.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

February minutes were tabled until April's meeting. More specific language added to bonus options.

Board Business:

● **Financials**

By this time of the year 73% percent of the money has come in, but the school has only spent 60% of the money. Plus factoring in the grants and the pandemic, it has caused us to have an overage of \$750,000.

Shane Buker will send out the budget before next month's meeting. It was a challenging budget to plan for because of the pandemic. The major differences have been less PD, no big trip planned, and the internal business officer.

The budget has to be approved in April, because the written agreements for staff have to be signed, and Ms. Bretous has started the end of year meetings with staff. What we can do over the next five years following this model of the scale is to close the gap between Cambridge Public School staff and Banneker staff by 20%. The school continues to look to improve our payscale for staff. The majority of staff are off scale. Increasing the payscale, and giving the staff bonuses are two different tools to retain staff, and manage the budget in a responsible way.

● **Staff Bonuses/Parent Support**

The school isn't allowed to give money to parents in any form. The school has asked Market Basket to donate \$25.00 gift cards so we can pass them along to parents.

Cradles to Crayons has donated 350 backpacks to our school. The school has asked HASBRO to donate some games for the students to play with their parents.

Bonuses: Option (1) was to give staff that worked at BBCPS more than 10 years, a Five-Thousand-dollar bonus, staff for five years or more, Forty-Two Hundred, staff under five years would receive a bonus of Three Thousand Five Hundred. The PT/Hourly people would receive Twenty-Five Hundred and the bus monitors would receive One Thousand. Option (2) most staff would receive a flat rate of Four Thousand Five Hundred. Then four people PT/Hourly would receive Two Thousand Five Hundred and bus monitors will receive One Thousand dollars.

Lin Tucker motioned to approve the bonuses for (Option 2), Shane Buker second the motion, all approved.

Roll call taken for bonus vote: Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, and Josiane Julmeus.

- **McKinney-Vento Homeless Policy**

Teachers did three modules of training tutorials on how to identify a homeless child. Heather Martin-Steenburgh is the homeless liaison, and she signed off on the policy. Sometimes the parents don't want to disclose that they are homeless because of the stigma involved.

Lin Tucker motioned to approve the McKinney-Vento Homeless Policy, Shane Buker seconded the motion, all approved. Roll call taken for vote: Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, and Josiane Julmeus.

- **Foster Care Plan**

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that if a child has been removed from the home because of a foster care situation the school will provide transportation for the child to attend school. Additional training was done through DCF.

Josiane Julmeus motioned to approve the Foster Care policy, Jenepher Gooding seconded the motion, all approved. Roll call taken for vote: Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, and Josiane Julmeus.

Executive Director's Report:

- **School Update**

As of April 5th the enrollment for students back in school will be 82%. All students have been asked to attend school for the MCAS test.

- **Technology Plan (Jared Perrine)**

In the spring of 2020 when the school learned we would have to go remote the technology department loaned out 57 iPads and zero hotspots. To further our loan program in January we had 169 iPads at home, and 100 hotspots. The school now has enough iPads and Macbooks to accommodate all students, and we own all of these devices. "Hiddenapp" is theft prevention software and "Securely" is a content filter. This protects our students from visiting inappropriate websites. "Classlink" is our sign in, and our portal to all other software. Classlink had a login of 18,000 in the month of September.

The three year tech plan prepares us for "Future Ready" (preparing students for success). The important things here are: do we have the access that we need, do we have the tools that we need, fast computers, and more bandwidth that you could possibly use. Both buildings have been recabled with Cat6A. The school is prepared for whatever may come our way. There is a \$60,000 dollars difference between the last three year tech plan, and the new tech plan because of \$30,000-\$40,000 dollar projects that were done whenever there was a surplus.

Summer projects are to move the phone system to the Cloud, and we will have more phone lines.

Shane Buker motioned to adjourn the meeting, Josiane Julmeus seconded the motion, all approved.

Roll call taken for vote: Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, and Josiane Julmeus.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.