

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2021

This meeting and its members are participating remotely due to the Coronavirus Epidemic.

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

Roll call was taken for attendance, (Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, and Janel Granum.

Sherley Bretous (Executive Director, ex-officio), Deborah DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, Janel Granum, and (Josiane Julmeus came to the meeting @ 6:25pm).

Visitors: N/A

Absent: Tirsit Habetariam.

Public Comment: N/A

Roll call was taken for to approve the minutes, (Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Lin Tucker, Jenepher Gooding, and Janel Granum. (All approved).

Shane Buker motioned to approve the December minutes, Jenepher Gooding seconded the motion, all approved.

Lin Tucker motioned to approve the November minutes, Janel Granum seconded the motion, all approved.

Board Business:

- **Financials**

The new person from Alexander Aronson Fining is doing her best to model the monthly reports how we are use to seeing them. This month the financials ae mainly unchanged from last month. The school has a continued surplus from the grant funding and the Coronavirus. The school is still looking for a full-time nurse.

DESE has made another request for documents regarding our audit. They are mainly interested in the Guatemala trip. There was a memo sent out to Board members explaining the overpayment to the vendor for the trip. A request has been sent to the vendor for overpayment refund.

DESE recognizes progress throughout the charter term in increasing Cambridge enrollment.

There are conflicting regulations related to 80% Cambridge student requirement; Cambridge cap on Charter students, sibling policy and policy of no “de-enrollment”. DESE is going to advise on how to proceed.

There were concerns from DESE about the Board’s direct oversight. There was a decision to have a Board training. Final renewal decision on DESE/BESE agenda for February.

Executive Director's Report:

- **Power Point Presentation**

The Board has requested a drop box for information so that it is easily accessible but it's not formatted properly and the school is still working on it.

- **Highlights on Banneker:**

The school is featured in an article on DESE website on Ms. Juengst 3rd grade on Hybrid/Blended learning. They are also developing an Arts Curriculum Guide Book featuring the performance that Ms. Hicks did with the students' "Wade in the Water," and they are going to spotlight Banneker as one of the most successful Hybrid programs. The Boston Foundation is featuring us on a blog called Banneker during COVID and they will introduce the Pozen findings on our school. The Remy Conference was on "State of Education in Massachusetts" and it features Banneker as Best Practice for Culture Affirming Pedagogy.

- **The Student Opportunity Act**

The SOA plan asks each charter school to make four commitments in order to close opportunity and achievement in gaps among student subgroups.

1. Intentionally focus on student subgroups who are not achieving at the same high levels as their peers.
2. Adopt, deepen, or continue specific evidence-based programs to close opportunity and achievement gaps.
3. Monitor success in reducing disparities in achievement among student subgroups over three years with a small number of metrics and targets.
4. Engage families, particularly those families representing student subgroups most in need of support, about how best to meet their students' needs.

This plan is required by DESE and we will implement it this year, and will possibly request grants in the future.

Lin Tucker Motioned to approve the Student Opportunity Act, Janel Granum seconded the motion.

Roll call taken, Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Jenepher Gooding, Josiane Julmeus, Lin Tucker and Janel Granum, all approved.

- **MCAS Spring Update**

Each student will be administered one test session in each subject area, ELA, and Math.
(Science in grade 5)

The testing will take place in April/May 2021. The tentative dates are (ELA- April 29th and May 6th), (Math- May 18th and May 25th) and (Science -May 20th and May 27th).

Josiane motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jenepher Gooding seconded the motion, all approved.

Roll call taken, Deb DelDotto, Shane Buker, Jenepher Gooding, Josiane Julmeus, Lin Tucker and Janel Granum, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43pm.