

BENJAMIN BANNEKER CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 11, 2020

Meeting is being held remotely due to Coronavirus Pandemic.

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

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

Visitors: N/A

Absent: Tirsit Habetariam

Public Comment: N/A

Shane Buker motioned to approve the May minutes, Janel Granum seconded the motion, all approved.

Board Business:

● **Vote in Josiane Julmeus as Board Member**

Josiane has been a part of the Board as a Parent Representative and we would like to vote her in as a regular Board member.

Jenepher Gooding motioned to approve Josiane Julmeus as a Board Member, Lin Tucker approved, unanimous vote to approve.

● **Benjamin Banneker Charter Public Annual Report**

This is a template we fill out and return to the State every year. When we closed the school on March 14th because of the pandemic the school wasn't able to meet some of the goals in the Annual Report as we normally do. DESE realizes the annual report will look different this year because of the pandemic, and all the schools are in the same position.

Lin Tucker motioned to approve the Annual Report as discussed here tonight, Josiane Julmeus seconded it, all approved.

● **Approve Charter Renewal Application**

Our Charter Renewal Application will expire in 2021. Every five years we have to file a new application. The year before the charter expires, we apply for renewal. Then a team from the State comes into the school, and they visit the classrooms. Then the team meets with the teachers, talks to the students, meets with the Board, checks our audits along with other things. The State visit will last 2-5 days. Then the team will make a decision to renew with DESE. The action plan hasn't been completed yet because usually we meet in groups to discuss it. Large group discussions are impossible with the pandemic at this moment.

The next five years our focus will be on technology. The school is looking for a multi-user platform in technology because if the on-line learning continues, we will need a better platform for our students and parents. Google classroom has worked brilliantly with our students but we have other online resources like IReady, Lexia, and Zoom. The new system will make it easier for parents and students to use, they can just go to one place for all programs. The two programs the school is looking to buy is Canvas or Schoolology. The school will continue to focus on Science and Engineering.

Also, we are focusing on the social emotional piece. In our school we would like to address the race issues and other social/emotion issues that come up. The school wants the teachers to be prepared to handle the social/emotional piece so that means lots of professional development training.

Our goals for charter renewal are (1) Cambridge enrollment, (2) Dissemination, (3) Technology, (4.) Professional Development (5) Community Relationships.

Three options for reopening are (A).everyone comes back to school in September with full PPE on, and social distancing for three feet with desk dividers. All meals will be served in the classroom. (B) Half the students come back to school and the other half stay at home with remote learning. (C) Remote learning for all students until January.

The two models are we split the classes where one class comes to school and the other stays home for remote learning. Meaning one first grade will come to school and two teachers will teach them, and the other two teachers will teach the other first grade class remotely. The following week they will switch off, one class comes to school and the other class stays home.

Another model could be K-2 comes to school in the AM and grades 3-6 in the afternoon. There are many classroom concerns with either options.

The final decision will come from the Governor and he is discussing the options with the Commissioner of Education.

Josiane Julmeus motion to approve, the Charter Renewal Application as discussed here tonight, Jenepher Gooding seconded the motion, all approved.

Lin Tucker Motioned to adjourn the meeting, Shane Buker seconded the motion, all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.