

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BEACON COLLEGE PREP CHARTER SCHOOL
February 20, 2019**

The Board of Directors for Beacon College Prep Charter School held its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 @ 10:00am at Beacon College Prep – 13400 NW 27th Avenue, Opa Locka, FL 33054.

Members Present

Mr. Jeffrey Miller, President and Board Chair
Mr. Patrick Range, Vice President
Ms. Melissa Krinzman, Secretary
Mr. Octavio Verdeja, Treasurer

Others Present

Mr. Patrick Evans, Principal, Beacon College Prep
Mr. John Flickinger, Director of Development, Beacon College Prep
Richard Moreno, Building Hope

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:20am by Mr. Jeffrey Miller.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 12/18/18 board meeting were reviewed. Mr. Range moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Verdeja seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Report from the Chair

Teacher Salaries: Mr. Miller raised the issue of pay raises for school district teachers generated by a voter-approved property tax increase (Referendum 362 passed Nov. 8, 2018). The board noted that the planned pay raises were only for district teachers. Charter schools/teachers will not be receiving any of the funds raised even though charter schools are public schools. The board agreed that this seemed unfair and inequitable. It also places a great deal of stress on the school financially as we seek to remain competitive with district teacher salaries

BCP teacher salaries were discussed within the context of this pay increase and teacher retention for 2019-20 and the 2019-20 budget. The board expressed concerns about the financial impact of trying to match pay increases being promised to district teachers. It was noted that the pay raises would take the form of “stipends” or supplements to existing teacher salaries and not permanent salary increases.

Mr. Evans proposed that BCP attempt to match the 5% stipend being offered to district teachers for the current 2018-19 school year. This stipend would be offered as a one-time “signing bonus” to assist with teacher retention and would not represent a permanent increase in teacher salaries. The board agreed that if the school could afford a 5% bonus/stipend at the end of the year then it should be paid as a signing bonus to returning teachers. The board instructed Mr. Evans not to pay the bonus until after the school year begins and to include the bonus in the 2019-20 budget.

The board tasked Mr. Evans, Mr. Flickinger and Mr. Moreno to study the impact of a 5% bonus stipend on the 2018-19 budget and to re-forecast the 2019-20 budget with various teacher pay raise scenarios and return to the April meeting with recommendations relating to teacher stipends/raises.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Statements: The board reviewed financial statements for both the middle school (MS) and elementary school (ES). Mr. Flickinger noted that several adjustments had been made in January to reallocate salaries and shared expenses properly. He also noted that in addition to the financial statements prepared for and provided to the school district, Rich Moreno will be preparing a Profit/Loss statement monthly as a financial management tool. This will allow the board to see budget vs. actual expenses and revenues more clearly/accurately.

Upon review of January's P/L statement, the board noted that administrative expenses for the ES were over budget and asked Mr. Evans and Mr. Flickinger to review and report back to the board. They also asked that in the future staff come prepared for explanations of major variances within the budget.

School Leader Report:

1. Charter Renewal & Contract: Mr. Evans thanked the board for their presence and support at the MDCPS ARC charter renewal meeting in January. He informed the board that the next step was to negotiate a new charter contract for BCP Elementary School. He recommended that the board accept the standard district contract with exceptions for a year-round school calendar as discussed at the previous board meeting and a 15-year contract renewal period.
2. The board discussed the need for a 15-year charter renewal period to satisfy current and future investors and/or bond holders. They noted that by owning its own facility the school is able to realize substantial savings and use these saved funds for the benefit of the students. The board also noted that Charter schools do not have the ability to levy funds like the District and that charter school law therefore permits the District to provide an extended term for the charter to obtain these opportunities. Mr. Miller made the following motion:

Whereas Beacon College Prep Inc. has recently closed on bond financing and has purchased its facility from its prior Landlord; and whereas Florida law provides as follows: 1002.33 (12). In addition, to facilitate access to long-term financial resources for charter school construction, charter schools that are operated by a private, not-for-profit, s. 501(c)(3) status corporation are eligible for up to a 15-year charter, subject to approval by the district school board. Such long-term charters remain subject to annual review and may be terminated during the term of the charter, but only according to the provisions set forth in subsection (8).

Be it resolved that the board shall request a 15-year charter renewal in its contract negotiations with the school district to satisfy current and future investors and/or bond holders.

Melissa Krinzman seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

3. Title 1 Budget: The board reviewed the Title 1 Budget for Beacon College

Prep Middle School as presented by Mr. Patrick Evans. They noted that the majority of funds would be used for staff expenditures for academic coaches and specialists. Please see attached budget.

Mr. Miller made a motion to accept the 2018-19 Title 1 budget for Beacon College Prep Middle School as presented. Ms. Krinzman seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve the Title 1 budget.

Development Director's Report


1. Community Outreach/School Visits: Mr. Flickinger reported that he had begun to schedule visits to the school by prominent leaders in the Miami community as per the board's recommendation at its December meeting. To date, Mr. David Lawrence, Founder of the Children's Movement, Mr. James Haj, CEO of the Children's Trust and Mr. Aundray Adams, VP for Community Engagement at the Trust have visited. Mr. Al Dotson is scheduled to visit in March. We are waiting to hear back from Tracy Mourning and Bill Diggs who were contacted by David Lawrence after his visit.

Ms. Krinzman recommended that we develop a list of "asks" or ways people can contribute to BCP if so inclined. Mr. Flickinger agreed to develop something with Mr. Evans to give to the board. The format of school visits were discussed as well.

2. Grants: Mr. Flickinger reported that a meeting had been arranged with Jon and Sandy Batchelor to follow-up on the proposal submitted last month. Mr. Miller said he had been in contact with Jon Batchelor regarding the proposal.
3. Facilities – Campus Construction Update: Mr. Flickinger reported that construction work was on schedule and under budget as of the end of January. The last permits for major work relating to the re-grading of the parking lot to address drainage/flooding issues and bathroom construction have been submitted and are working their way through the county. Work should begin in April and completed before the new school year begins.
4. High School Development: Mr. Miller asked Mr. Flickinger to continue to gather information on potential properties for a future high school.
5. Board Development/Expansion: Mr. Flickinger raised the need to expand the board to include broader community representation and community leaders who are well networked. Mr. Miller asked Mr. Flickinger and Mr. Evans to identify a good community rep, perhaps a pastor or leader from a local church.
6. Fund Raising Plan/Strategy: It was noted that if the board intended to support the mission of the school through a fund raising campaign then a plan was needed. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15. The next meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2019 at 10am at Beacon College Prep.

Approved by:



Melissa Krinzman, Secretary

Date 05/07/2019