



**Educating for College.  
Empowering for Life.**

**Beacon College Prep**

2750 NW 135<sup>th</sup> Street  
Opa Locka, Florida 33054  
Telephone: 786-353-6109  
Fax 786-583-8677

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
BEACON COLLEGE PREP CHARTER SCHOOL  
October 06, 2023**

The Board of Directors for Beacon College Prep Inc. meet on Friday, October 06, 2023 @ 10:30am at 2750 NW 135<sup>th</sup> Street Opa-Locka, FL 33054.

**Members Present**

Jeffrey Miller, President  
Octavio Verdeja, Treasurer  
Virginia Akar, Member  
Melissa Krinzman, Member

**Members Not Present**

**Staff & Others Present**

Carlos Gonzalez, Board Liaison  
Sergio Bonilla, School Principal  
Melissa Hernandez, Guest  
Gordon Crozier, Guest

**Call to Order:** Meeting Called to Order @ 10:30 am. Attendance was taken through a roll call; all board members present. Mr. Miller reviewed the meeting's agenda and reviewed the prior board meetings minutes and highlights.

Previous board meeting minutes reviewed and approved.

Mr. Miller welcomed the attendees and discussed the status of the school as it transitions in leadership and culture. He emphasized the need to continue to build a collaborative community at Beacon where all stakeholders are working together to build the future of the school. Mr. Miller encouraged the school leadership to be aggressive with increasing parental involvement and to build a stronger EESAC and PTO. Mr. Gonzalez presented a few ideas for an upcoming fall / winter festival at the school to increase awareness of these groups as well as give the school as chance to experience positive relationship opportunities with each other. Mr. Miller stated that he would like to donate funds to get the account for the PTO started on a positive note and to use some of these funds for this festival. Mr. Bonilla discussed that the school just hosted a series of 3 Open House events. That these events were used to introduce to new admin staff as well as to allow families to meet the teachers and their procedures.



**Educating for College.  
Empowering for Life.**

## **Beacon College Prep**

2750 NW 135<sup>th</sup> Street  
Opa Locka, Florida 33054  
Telephone: 786-353-6109  
Fax 786-583-8677

**School Governance & Operations:** Mr. Bonilla was introduced to the Board by Mr. Miller. Mr. Bonilla introduced himself, thanked the Board for the opportunity to lead Beacon, and presented some baseline data from the current school year's PM1 and iReady assessments. Beacon students are scoring below grade level in all categories across all grade levels. Mr. Bonilla explained that the school is now adjusting its small group, centers, and intervention programming to align to the data received from these assessments. He explained that there will be a second assessment window in Dec-Jan that will allow the school an opportunity to determine the success of these adjustments as well as allow the school to make another round of adjustments before the accountability PM3 window.

**Enrollment:** Mr. Bonilla explained that the school's enrollment is at 450 students. This number is a reduction of about 80 students from last year's enrollment. Mr. Gonzalez explained that the school is using a marketing firm to continue to reach the community via newsletters and social media. He also presented that a new company is offering a marketing approach that directly advertises through social media accounts. Mr. Gonzalez will be meeting with this company in the coming weeks to finalize the costs and the strategy. Mrs. Akar asked why the school is losing mostly middle school students and she mentioned that this has been an ongoing trend as she noticed that the Girls Inc program has experienced this in the past also. Mr. Gonzalez explained that this is the age that programming becomes more available through competition of magnets and other choice programs. He also explained that the Beacon middle school program has not provided enough success or interest to keep its students. He explained that accelerated programming, extra-curricular activities, strong electives, and a safe environment are key and that the school is addressing these areas already.

**FSSAT:** Mr. Gonzalez presented the school's FSSAT and explained that there are some needs at Beacon that must be addressed in order to comply with the requirements of this document. The most pressing needs are to increase security staff, increase signage throughout the campus, purchase a clearance system at the front office, and to fortify the perimeter fencing throughout the campus. The school has hired a lead security guard and has already begun the utilization of the ConciergePad program at the front office. Mr. Gonzalez presented the details of the FSSAT to the Board for final approval. Approved Unanimously.

**Evaluation Program:** Mr. Gonzalez presented the choice to continue using the FCPCS Teacher and Admin Evaluation Program. This is the same program that Beacon has used throughout the previous years. Board Approved Unanimously.

**Title 1:** Mr. Gonzalez presented the Title 1 Budget for approval. The funds allocated to Beacon this year (17k) are significantly below what the school has received in the past and was projected to receive this year. Mr. Gonzalez explained that he contacted the Title 1 Department and that an email reply was received indicating that the merger of the two schools may have led to some confusion. The email also stated that the enrollment numbers will be reviewed after the



**Educating for College.  
Empowering for Life.**

## **Beacon College Prep**

2750 NW 135<sup>th</sup> Street  
Opa Locka, Florida 33054  
Telephone: 786-353-6109  
Fax 786-583-8677

October FTE window and that corrects may be made sometime in December. Mr. Gonzalez explained that FTE, Capital Outlay, and Title 1 have all be affected due to this merging of schools. Mr. Miller expressed the urgency to maintain communication with the State and District regarding these funds. The current Title 1 Budget was presented with the use of these limited funds to pay part of a paraprofessional's salary as well as the allocated CIS amount. Board approved unanimously with the condition that the amount will be revisited after the October FTE.

Out-Of-Field Waivers: Mr. Gonzalez presented that the school has a few out-of-field waivers that need to be reviewed. The waivers are for certified teachers that are teaching in a subject or grade level that does not align to their current certification. He added that with the Board's approval, these waivers are allowed and will be shared with the respective stakeholders.

OOF: Acosta, Grady, Nesbitt, Menar, Thomas, Sumlar, Sacerio, Letang, Lee, Petion, Patnelli, Fenelon, James, Hickey, Papillon, Jackson, Battle, Marchal, Gordillo, Jackson, A, Julien, Dunkley

OOF ESOL: Gordillo, James, Francois, Dunkley, Letang, Lee

**Finances:** Mr. Verdeja presented the Financial Audits completed for the 2022-2023 school year. He showed that the two schools combined finished with a deficit in funds. This deficit was predominantly due to declining enrollment, high salaries, and a delay in the distribution of ESSER grant reimbursements. With all of the ESSER grant funds reimbursed, the school would have finished at a net neutral position.

Mr. Gonzalez presented the current school year's budget and showed that salaries have been reduced significantly and that the ESSER reimbursements have begun to arrive. He added that the tax referendum funds will begin in December and that there are still ESSER funds to be received. The current projection is that, despite the low enrollment, the school will not finish the school year in a deficit.

Mr. Gonzalez presented that the costs of employee benefits have increased dramatically due to increases in insurance premiums. He shared that there is a possibility of needing to scale back from some of the benefits that the school had been funding such as vision, dental, long term, and life insurance. A meeting with the agents has been scheduled and more details will be provided then.

Mr. Gonzalez presented the Tax Referendum Allocation document and the Teacher Salary Increase Plan. These documents provide guidance with how to use the funds provided to increase all teacher salaries as well as to increase the minimum teacher salary threshold respectively. Each document was reviewed and approved by the board unanimously.



**Beacon**  
College Prep

**Educating for College.  
Empowering for Life.**

**Beacon College Prep**

2750 NW 135<sup>th</sup> Street  
Opa Locka, Florida 33054  
Telephone: 786-353-6109  
Fax 786-583-8677

**Meeting Adjourned @ 12:47 pm**

*The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she is a Director and/or Officer of Beacon College Prep, Inc, a not-for-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida, and that the above is a true and correct copy of the meeting minutes of the Board of Directors of said corporation & the individual charter schools sponsored by the said corporation.*

The minutes were adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on TBD.

Beacon College Prep, Inc. A Florida not-for-profit corporation

By:  \_\_\_\_\_

Jeffrey Miller, Board Chairman

Date: May 4, 2023