



Beacon
College Prep

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

Beacon College Prep

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

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BEACON COLLEGE PREP CHARTER SCHOOL
June 5, 2024**

The Board of Directors for Beacon College Prep Inc. meet on Wednesday, June 5 2024 @ 10:30am at 2750 NW 135th 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 informed the Board about the recent passing of Ms. Brown a teacher from Beacon College Prep. Ms. Brown has been a teacher and support staff member at beacon for a few years and was recently an ESE teacher at the school. Her service is being held this weekend and the information needed was distributed. A moment of silence was held in honor of Ms. Brown.

School Governance & Operations: Mr. Miller announced that raw end of year assessment data was available and that we are all anxious to receive the numbers. Mr. Gonzalez presented that Beacon finished all of its end of year assessments and that the raw data shows that the school improved in its proficiency numbers in every category (ELA, Math, Science, Acceleration) except for Civics. ELA increased by 5 percentage points, math increased by 7 percentage points, science increased by 15 percentage points and acceleration increased by 9 percentage



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points. Civics decreased by 4 percentage points. Mr. Gonzalez explained the impact and calculation of learning gains and that modest proficiency gains will show modest learning gains. Overall, the school staff feels like the scores could have been higher and there is already an urgency to see what can be done next year with the same system. School grades will be released in late June, hopefully.

The assessment analysis will go deep into the summer, but the early alignment is that improved time on task will have a very positive effect on the school. Providing teachers with the resources, training, and support to be effective and providing an environment of high expectations and support for the students are key.

Mr. Miller asked that the school get very aggressive with conducting a summer camp program and an after school care program. Mr. Gonzalez explained that the school advertised for a summer camp, but that very few families expressed interest. Mr. Gonzalez said that he is meeting with local summer camp directors and school principals to see what the desire and operating practices are for summer camps in the area. Mr. Gonzalez also stated that any family needing summer camp this summer is being referred to the YMCA and to HIVE's summer camp. Mr. Miller shared that the school should consider a free summer camp this year to get momentum and that it could help in recruiting for next year also.

Enrollment / Marketing: Mr. Gonzalez presented that the school's marketing plan has been showing positive results. The office is receiving more "flow" with prospective families than ever before, according to the office manager. There has been some attrition due to relocation and competition, but overall, the school is on its way to meeting its enrollment goal for the next school year. The most difficult hurdle to overcome is that 8th grade has a large enrollment when compared to kindergarten trends. The end of year award shows and graduations have provided a strong positive vibe with families and students which has also contributed to new student enrollment.

Mrs. Akar asked about staff retention numbers when compared to previous years. Mr. Miller explained that Beacon historically has high rates of teacher loss. Mr. Gonzalez shared that the verbal and offer letter signatures show a high rate of teacher retention. There is a small number of teachers that the school will not be renewing, but as of today only 2 teachers have announced that they will not be returning. One is moving out of state and the other has accepted a high school teaching position in Miami-Dade. With a competitive market for teacher, there is always the chance for some turn over in the summer months.

Governance: Mr. Miller asked for an update regarding the backpay of the tax referendum funds. Mr. Gonzalez shared that the lawyers are currently expecting that a settlement will be made soon and that an additional 5% interest is possible. This is lower than the other two nearby district settlements, but that Miami-Dade will settle and pay much quicker than the others.



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Mr. Gonzalez announced that the potential partnership with Success Academy has been withdrawn. Beacon asked for a few stipulations that Success decided not to negotiate with. Mr. Miller stated that there were many reasons to develop a deeper relationship with Success, but that this was a difficult possibility and that hopefully there can be a relationship in the future.

Mr. Gonzalez then presented the opportunity to partner with True North Leader Fellowship. This is a school leadership development program that will infuse the highly successful True North program into the Beacon program. Mr. Gonzalez explained that the program focuses directly on what administrators need to succeed in supporting and developing teachers and that the individuals working with this program are top notch in the industry and as friends. Mr. Gonzalez presented the proposal to join the program and the Board approved unanimously to execute it.

A possible candidate to be included to the Beacon College Prep Governing Board, Lori-Anne Cox, was discussed. Lori-Anne is very involved in the local community and leads the very successful Breakthrough Miami program. Each Board member expressed very positive experiences with her and agreed that this would be a great fit for the school. The board approved including this discussion in the next board meeting for possible inclusion.

Finances: Mr. Verdeja showed that the school's financial statements are continuing the trend found in the last quarter. Expenses have decreased while revenues have stabilized, with the proper payments from Title 1 and Tax Referendum funds. The projection is that the school will finish the year with a strong surplus that relied heavily on ESSER reimbursements and a balanced operating budget.

Mr. Gonzalez showed the SY25 annual budget. The tax referendum back pay and remaining ESSER reimbursements will give the school a strong cash start while the increase in enrollment with a balanced budget will keep the school viable. The proposal is to use some of the surplus funds to increase teacher salaries according to their evaluations and to purchase new FF&E for the classrooms. The 5-year budget was also presented, showing the impact of a gradually increasing enrollment. Mr. Verdeja asked that the budget be amended with the tax referendum and ESSER revenue showing as a special funds line item underneath the operating budget. Mr. Miller asked that a type of differed bonus plan be created to reward and encourage tenure for teachers.

Meeting Adjourned @ 12:50 pm



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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: March 19, 2024