

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

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 April 16, 2025**

The Board of Directors for Beacon College Prep Inc. meet on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 @ 10:30 am at 2750 NW 135th Street Opa-Locka, FL 33054.

#### **Members Present**

Jeffrey Miller, President Octavio Verdeja, Treasurer Virginia Akar, Member Melissa Krinzman, Member Lori-Ann Cox, 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 read through the meeting agenda and explained that Beacon is successfully meeting the expectations in every category, except for enrollment trends. He emphasized that enrollment needs to become the school's obsession and that all resources possible need to be directed in this direction.

#### **School Operations:**

Enrollment / Marketing: Mr. Gonzalez presented that the school has continues to emphasize marketing through different angles: social media marketing, hard-copy flyers, environmental posters/murals, community events/relationships. These efforts have brough a steady flow of new families into the school. However, the flow of families leaving the community continues to



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hamper enrollment issues. Mr. Miller stressed that the artificial grass and mural projects be used in the marketing plan as it beautifies the school and shows the dedication of resources to the school. Finally, the school has increased its social media presence by increasing the flow if videos and images from its daily operations. The goal is to continue positive information flow as the school's culture and academics are highlighted.

Mr. Bonilla presented the school's most recent assessment data. The school has completed all of its mid-year assessments (PM2, MYA, i-Ready2) and is already utilizing this data for crunch-time and classroom adjustments. When compared to SY25, the data at the school is showing an improvement in every category and grade level. Individual student growth is high as is the proficiency numbers of the school. Mr. Bonilla provided evidence such as schedule changes, planning period pull-outs, small group intensification, etc. as examples of adjustments the school has made utilizing this data. While there is still time to go, the trend is very positive and should continue to grow until PM3.

Mr. Bonilla explained that the endo of year observations, evaluations, and summative will be conducted throughout the remaining months of the year. Utilizing the consortium's evaluation program, all instructional staff, support staff and admin will be evaluated and compared to professionalism, student performance, and job performance.

Mr. Gonzalez presented that Beacon is working with the University of Miami (AMP-It-Up) and the Lucy Project to conduct more science-based intervention programs for the upcoming school year. AMP-It-Up is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade intervention program that will be conducted during the intensive reading block and targets struggling readers in middle school. Lucy Project is a kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade ELA program that has shown recent success in local elementary schools and provides paraprofessional support within the classes. Board approved.

Mr. Gonzalez provided an update on the pre-K program addition to the school. He stated that the process to get Director credentialed was more arduous than expected and that a new approach is needed. The school Principal (if certified) does qualify for this credential and that Mr. Bonilla has begun the process of obtaining his certificate with the State. Once this is completed, the school will apply for permitting. Mr. Miller expressed the importance of this addition as it will help increase enrollment and better prepare our younger students.



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#### Governance:

Mr. Gonzalez presented the need to change bank accounts. The current bank has a physical location that is far from the school and that this has made things more difficult than needed. Mrs. Akar and Mr. Verdeja provided references for a few Banks (Community and Amerant) and provided contact information for both. Board approved the move forward with the change.

Mr. Bonilla presented a few Out-of-Field Waivers that needed approval. These positions are certified teachers who are teaching a subject that is not a part of their certification. While it is difficult to find teacher sin today's market, these individuals are placed in these classes to better align the school's mission with staff. Board Approved.

#### Finance:

Mr. Gonzalez presented the SY26 Budget. He explained that the referendum back-pay will provide the school another year of support to be aggressive with its marketing campaign as well as with providing additional staffing for interventions and classroom support. In addition, the budget shows a staffing adjustment to prepare for the decrease in enrollment. Board Approved.

Mr. Verdeja reviewed the current budget and explained that it is keeping up with expectations of the annual budget when aligned to enrollment figures. The increase in marketing expenses is evident as are salaries when aligned to the tax referendum payments.

#### Meeting Adjourned @ 12:06 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

Jeffrey Miller, Board Chairman

Date: April 22, 2025