



**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

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
BEACON COLLEGE PREP CHARTER SCHOOL  
December 10, 2024**

The Board of Directors for Beacon College Prep Inc. meet on Wednesday, December 11, 2024 @ 10:30 am 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  
Lori-Ann Cox, Member

**Members Not Present**

**Staff & Others Present**

Richard Moreno, Building Hope  
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 officially introduced the newest governing board member, Lori-Ann Cox. He described her extensive and highly regarded experience with Breakthrough Miami and her positive working relationship with schools through Miami-Dade, include Beacon College Prep. Mrs. Cox introduced herself further.

**School Governance & Operations:**

**Enrollment / Marketing:** Mr. Miller asked Mr. Gonzalez to provide the current status of Beacon's enrollment and how the marketing efforts are evolving. Mr. Gonzalez presented that the school's overall enrollment has remained stable since the start of the current school year.



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He explained that there has been a positive trend in new enrolments, but that there has been an almost equal trend in students leaving the school. Mr. Verdeja asked for more specifics regarding the students leaving. Mr. Gonzalez shared the exit interview data that showed the vast majority of families leaving Beacon are a result of families leaving the community. The second greatest reason for students leaving Beacon has been families of students that are not behaving or performing as well as they'd like. Mr. Gonzalez added that the trend of the families newly enrolling into Beacon are indicating a positive school culture and reputation as their main reason for their change.

Mr. Miller asked for more details on the marketing plan and how it is evolving with the school's needs. Mr. Gonzalez shared that marketing/branding firm it is using is utilizing social media marketing (Facebook, Instagram), website updates, hardcopy newsletters, and direct mailer postcards. The school has also added a new mural on its PE wall, is installing artificial turf on its PE field and is using a social media videographer to keep "fresh" videos within the feeds of every follower of Beacon's social media sites.

Mr. Miller reminded that the school should host its next family/community event as soon as the field is completed. That this could be a celebration of the new field as well as a marketing event for new enrollment, while also celebrating the current stakeholders of the school. The board agreed.

Mr. Gonzalez shared that the enrollment numbers have required the school administration to adjust some staffing numbers, positions, salaries, and job descriptions. Each move was done with the long-term best interest of the school in mind. As of today, all of the changes have been received as well as possible and that the school's culture seems to remain positive and productive. The goal was to keep as many of the best people as possible and this has been the case thus far.

Mr. Gonzalez provided the board with an account of the school's current operations and standing. He described that the school is continuing to adjust to the pace and expectations it set itself for the school year. That some teachers have expressed a "hit-the-wall" feeling due to some students missing the stamina they are requiring and that the upcoming holiday break doesn't help either. Mr. Gonzalez and Mr. Bonilla described that this is a positive place to be at this time. This shows that the school is working hard and that the expectations from the teachers is still high. He also shared the mid-year adjustments that are being made at the school as a result of classroom and assessment (as available) data. Workshop groups, centers, labs, and advising groups are all being adjusted to address specific data trends. This is where the flexible scheduling and staffing becomes a major advantage. The goal is to have a parallel world of re-teaching specific standards without overworking or overwhelming the staff.



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Mr. Gonzalez presented the Florida Consortium of Public Charter School evaluation program to the Board. This is the same program that the school has used in the past to execute its teachers, staff, and administration evaluations. The board unanimously approved to use this once again.

**Governance:** Mr. Miller described the importance of the school growing into the pre-school or pre-kinder grade levels. He shared that this will benefit the school in many ways, such as developing the relationships and academics of the students at an even younger age, increasing the enrollment of the school, and competing with the other schools in the community which all serve these grade levels. He explained that Mr. Gonzalez continues to work on everything that is needed to get a program up and running for the next school year. He also explained that the school has an ideal location between the cafeteria and the office, known as the blacktop area. This area has available classrooms, an outside area, bathrooms, and is closest to the office and cafeteria. Mr. Gonzalez described the process required and that he has begun completing some of them. Mr. Verdeja shared a connection with the Early Learning Coalition and that he would connect Mr. Gonzalez. The board unanimously approved growing into the pre-k and pre-school grades.

Mr. Gonzalez presented an opportunity to partner with the University of Miami's AMP-IT-Up program. This is a program that specifically targets middle school intensive reading students and provides the school with curriculum resources, professional development, and instructional coaching throughout the school year. This program is being utilized in other public schools in Miami-Dade and they are growing into the charter school space next year. The next steps would be to get parental consent from the eligible students and create a training program over the summer for the staff. Board approved unanimously.

**Finances:** Mr. Verdeja reviewed the most recent monthly and quarterly financial statements. The operating finances are aligning with the annual budget's projections. The expenses are pretty-much in line with expectations and the revenue has been consistent due to a stable enrollment. However, the school has not received two key revenue sources, SY25 tax referendum payments and the SY25 LCIR. When these two are received the school will be well aligned with the annual budget.



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**Meeting Adjourned @ 11:55 am**

*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: December 11, 2024