

Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School (BFCCPS)

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, March 12, 2015 7:00 pm

Attendance: President - Don Tappin; Vice President - Ted Basile; Treasurer - Jerry Cimmino; Clerk - Sagar Karmathi; Cross Barnes; Jason Fine; Joe Mullen, John Williams, Head of School - Heather Zolnowski; Asst. Head of School - Joe Perna

Absent: Sandy Frongillo

Call to Order (7:05 pm):

Don Tappin welcomed everyone.

Recognition of the month:

Three out of the four BFCCPS students who won the School Science Fair were introduced to the board by the science teacher Melissa Herliczhek. The students made brief but impressive presentations about their projects. They all moved onto represent BFCCPS at the MA Region III Science Fair, Fall River, MA.

Clerks Report:

Sagar presented clerk's report for the February 2015 board meeting and solicited comments/corrections from members after review. The some statements on the treasurer's report were corrected. The section on the structure of the board was revised as per members' suggestions.

Jerry made motion to pass the report; Cross seconded it. Lax abstained as he was not present in February board meeting

Treasurer's Report:

Jerry presented a very upbeat financial report driven by favorable tuition reimbursement rates. Employee benefits and facility expenses are also showing favorable variances to budget. Currently there is a projected operating income variance of \$107K for the school year! There was discussion about the current wait list and our readiness to expand K-4 classes.

Jerry made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Jason seconded it.

HOS Report:

- Heather reported that the school play was very successful
- This year's admission lottery (properly randomized and anonymized) was discussed. A total of 423 students applied. Majority are from Franklin. No applications were received from Mendon and Holliston. There were a small number of applicants from Milford. All 50 KG students have accepted.

- BFCCPS staff Deb Leonard, Mike Marcou, Laura Tappin, Ellen Fallon, and Joan Basille were commended for their great job in running the lottery. An external comptroller was used for the lottery operation to avoid conflict of interest.
- PARCC testing: Though advised that our infrastructure could host 999 students in reality about 75 students were able to test it without problem on a particular day. The tests have been scheduled in a staggered fashion to test about 100 students per day.
- It was clarified that the test will be all computer-based and no paper tests will be conducted.
- The Internet network infrastructure has not been a problem in any other scenario. It is mostly with the Pearson (company) infrastructure that creates the problem.
- Head lice situations: The non-exclusion policy is procedure of the administration and they will deal with it.
- Safety Incidence: The administration has looked at the intruder policies, reviewed it and communicated with BFCCPS community. Procedures for visitors and assembly etc. has been modified and updated.
- Professional development for staff: K-4 Ready textbooks; 5-8 Support for all students focusing on LGBTQ; ½ day on managing life threatening allergy situations in class environment.

Action Register Items:

- Governance committee: Items on the committee will be attended to during the later course of the year. Meeting scheduled in April. There will be 2 meetings every month in the next few months.
- HR Committee: Organizing the HR employee survey
- Mission Committee: Nothing to report
- Finance Committee: Nothing to report
- Facilities Committee: On a holding pattern till the RFP committee completes its work
- Sagar is designated the nomination coordinator for new trustees
- The size and shape of the board was discussed. Finally Jason moved the motion to increase the board size by 2 to 12. Cross seconded it. It was unanimously passed.
- Advertisement will be sent out in the following week.
- RFP committee will meet on Mar 17 to discuss the property selection

Adjournment: Jason made a motion to adjourn and Cross; the motion passed unanimously.