



Omighade Escayg
Head of School/Director

Mary Kate Boesch
Assistant Principal

Linda Hatfield Ed. D.
Assistant Principal

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

March 24, 2015

Members Present:

Henry A. Lambert, Chair
Michael A. Catlyn
Diana J. Lee
Tony Betaudier
Omighade Escayg
(ex-officio non-voting)
Mark David

Member Absent

DeShana Thomas
(FAC-ex officio voting)

Others Present

Linda Hatfield - Asst. Principal
Mary Kate Boesch - Asst. Principal
Colathur Janardhanan
Jamel Cherry
Karen Cename
Sean Perham – Faculty Rep
Phylicia Alexander (Parent)
Sandra Cacho (Parent)

The meeting was held on March 24, 2015 at the School. The meeting was called to order at 5:30. The minutes for the meeting held on February 24, 2014 were ready and will be presented at the next meeting.

Finance

Tuition reimbursement is now at 238 students. Janardhanan reported that there was a net loss of \$38,785 for 7/1/14-2/15/14 with a projected loss of \$130,000 for the School year. This was based on a recapture of \$60,000 and assumed the Wedding Garden will contribute \$175,000 (to date the contribution has been \$150,000.)

Michael reported that there was unlikely to be anything passed in the State budget which would be favorable to Charter Schools. The current per pupil reimbursement is \$13,777.

Additional costs of \$76,450 for 3 after-school buses, after-school teachers, bus matrons and training, the Ghanaian Performing Troupe and incentives for teachers were discussed which were not in the budget so the total deficit for the year could be about \$200,000. We will try to reduce these additional costs to \$50,000 total.

Salary increases for next year will cost \$150,000 and a raise in the base salary by about \$5,000 for starting teachers make it important that the Charter be amended to allow for 260 students.

Michael reported that the D&O cost was increasing by \$15,000 due to the claim and this is before premium increase. Health cost will be up by 8%. There is talk of creating a consortium of charter schools to create a bigger pool for insurance. Michael will check out increasing the health care deductible and co-pay and having the School fund this. Board voted to adopt a 3% increase for the 401K contribution for 2015-16.....so moved.

Jamel reported on recruitment. We have received 481 applications which is a 22% increase over last year. We have 75-80 seats for 150 kindergarten applicants. Every applicant has been contacted and open houses are scheduled. The lottery will be held on April 17. Diana asked staff to look into changing the lottery date to April 15 which was the date the lottery was being held City-wide. A mailing will be sent to parents asking them to pre-commit since they will be admitted in any event.

A parent pointed out that the BCS website still said we have after-school (we don't but we do have homework help and tutoring) and showed the old test scores.

Education

There are 61 students participating in the Saturday Academy of which 18 (5th graders only) are in the tutoring program run by George Leonard. After School tutorial focuses on ELA since that's what the School performs lowest on. Discussion on the difficulty students are having in adapting to the Common Core; concern that some teachers were not good and there was instability in the teaching staff with too many new teachers and teachers being let go. Tony asked that we look at other charter schools to see what made them successful. Henry said we should only look at comparable schools to BCS, not chain schools.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm. The next meeting will be held on April 21, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Diana J. Lee, Secretary