

Members Present

Henry A. Lambert, Chair
Diana Lee
Tony Betaudier
Feona Huevo
Mark David
Joanne Hunt (ex-officio non-voting)

Others Present

Pam Sanders
Robert Morales
Ariel Arnold
Mr. Angel

The meeting was held at the home of Henry Lambert on December 10th, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. The minutes for the meeting held on November 18th, 2019 were approved.

Enrollment

There are currently 219 students. Within a 2-week period BCS lost 6 students but gained 5 within the two-week period. The following students left the school:

- A brother and sister (in kindergarten and 2nd grade) moved back to Albany.
- A 4th Grader who lives in New Jersey moved to a closer school in New Jersey.
- Twins, who were in the 1st grade who were struggling with behavior chose to leave the school due a plethora of suspensions.
- A kindergarten student who found the travel to BCS difficult.

The following students joined the school:

- Two cousins (Kindergarten and a 3rd grader) of a family at the school, joined.
- A 2nd Grader whose mother attended the school years ago.
- A 4th Grader whose sister went to BCS and was on the verge of being expelled from a Success Academy.
- A 3rd Grader walk-in from the website.

Mr. Angel provided any update on recruitment efforts. There are a lot of families coming into the community and Mr. Angel is making sure they know we exist. Mr. Angel has set up evening visits at the local Brooklyn libraries, including setting up tables, chatting to families, and putting up flyers. Similarly, he visited local restaurants, where he put up flyers and encouraged word of mouth recommendations of the school. Mr. Angel identified and approached 4 daycares that we didn't know about. He also reached out to local churches, as well as to communities along our bus route.

Administration and teachers are outside the school every day and are very visible. But the priority for the school in its marketing and outreach is to ensure that name is attached to the front of the school. Joanne is going to have a conversation with the principal of the downstairs public school (PS 23). If this doesn't work Joanne will approach the liaison responsible for relations between co-located schools to ensure that we obtain the necessary signage in the front of the building.

Academic Report

An overview of iReady was presented to the Board. This is a research-based program with proven results. It is most useful for struggling students, identifying where their needs are based on general/essential standards such as comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, phonics, usage, numerical facts, math foundations, etc.

iReady offers online diagnostics and online instructional tools. It offers personalized plans for each student. Students spend at least 45 minutes per week online using iReady. In addition to the personalized plans for students it also produces lesson plans for teachers. Many students have similar issues so they can be grouped together based on this. It is also good for students with learning disabilities. This program should help BCS from over-testing students. An overview of iReady will be added to the BCS website.

Generally those students who have been with BCS perform better than those who just arrived at the school.

The TAP tutorial program started this week with 70 students participating with 13 tutors.

Financial Report

The net income as of this meeting was \$617,508.51. The school currently has \$2.3 million in the bank. While \$75,000 is in a separate account, it needs to be placed into an actual escrow account. There will be a meeting regarding the general school insurances in March with the Board Chair, the Principal, the Director of Operations and the company that provides the insurances to the school. The Board wants to ensure that the school has all of the appropriate coverages necessary by reviewing what coverage we currently have and looking to see if we need anything else.

Henry and Joanne will work together develop the initial draft of the required Succession Plan for School Leadership. No specific format was given for this. The draft will be presented at the January 2020 board meeting for review and discussion prior to submission on 1/31/20.

The next Board Meeting will be held at 6pm on January 14th, 2019 at Brooklyn Charter School.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.