

A Members Present

Henry A. Lambert, Chair
Mark David
Diana Lee
Feona Huevo

Others Present

Robert Morales
Joanne Hunt
Ariel Arnold

The meeting was held via a ZOOM conference call on April 27, 2021.

Topic: BCS Board of Trustees Meeting

Time: March 25, 2021 6:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82291448351?pwd=dnQ0aXVJRTdpWGfHmk0raEFGbGFGQT09>

Meeting ID: 822 9144 8351

Password: bcs

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,82291448351#,,,,0#,,593914# US (New York)

Meeting ID: 822 9144 8351

Password: 593914

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82291448351?pwd=dnQ0aXVJRTdpWGfHmk0raEFGbGFGQT09>

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm. The minutes for the meeting held on March 25, 2021 were approved with a motion from Diana, seconded by Mark. All voting members (4) were in favor.

COVID Updates:

There have been no new reported COVID cases in the building since 3/2/21.

School Hybrid/Remote Updates:

- Current students opting for Full Remote Learning: 137 (141)
- Students Opting for In-Person: 70 (66)
- Total Devices loaned to date: 180 (176)
- March 2021 attendance was 83%:
- Next opt-in date: At this point of the school year, parents can opt-in by request at any time. If we have the space, we will allow any family to participate as long as they agree to the COVID testing mandates required by the school via DOH.

Education Updates

- NYC DOE Authorizer Virtual Visit: Thursday, April 22, 2021
 - Academic Expectations: The authorizer is looking for systems and structures in place where they are confident that students will make necessary growth in the next renewal period.
 - Strong test scores in ELA and Math in 2018-19 where BCS significantly outperformed CSD 14
 - Potential Red flags for BCS
 - ELL targets: 6% vs 15% (Proposed motion to weight a percentage of seats for ELL students in school lottery moving forward)
 - **A motion was made by Henry and seconded by Mark to weight seats in the BCS lottery for all incoming applicants in grades K-5. 25% of all kindergarten seats will be slated for English as a New Language (ENL) applicants and 25% of available seats in grades 1-5 will be slated for wait listed ENL applicants. The motion was carried as all voting member (4) were in favor of the motion.**
 - SWD targets: 17% vs 24%: BCS currently has 19% of students in the SWD category in the 2020-21 school year. DOE is optimistic that the numbers are increasing and that we need to remain on this trajectory moving into the renewal period.
 - FRLP targets: 79% vs 63%: We are meeting are target in this area.
 - Enrollment: 207- BCS must ensure at least 204 students but would like to increase its numbers back to the 240 students that the charter has listed as its enrollment target.
 - Fiscal Concern from previous renewal: Board Fiscal Training yearly- DOE stressed the importance of board fiscal training due to the fiscal malfeasance discovered during the last renewal term associated with an ex-board member. Board members are expected to participate in yearly finance board trainings.
 - NYS Testing Updates
 - NYS ELA Test (April 20-21): Total tested 50/121(40.5%)
 - 3rd grade: 10/34 = 29%
 - 4th grade: 21/40 = 52.5%
 - 5th grade: 19/47 = 40%
 - NYS Math Test (May 4-5)
 - Day 1 was administered to all in-person students in grades 3-5 and the remote students who opted in. Day 2 although optional was administered the following day. Any in-person students who came in without an opt-out note were required to take the assessment.

- Virtual Tutoring Program:
 - New program cycle began the week of April 12th.
 - Total BCS tutors: 6 (We had 4 in the previous cycle)
 - Total students being serviced this cycle: 21
- BCS Summer Program
 - The Carter G. Woodson Campus will be closed due to a boiler conversion project. BCS will conduct a virtual summer program for all grades, K-5. Further details of the program will be discussed at the May 2021 board meeting.
- BCS Board Members wanted to know what the school was doing extra in order to mitigate learning loss for students:
 - Response to Intervention (RTI) groups: Small groups of students meet with teachers daily for at least 30 minutes during the day to address specific areas of deficiency in reading and math based on iReady data in order to bring these students closer to grade level.
 - iReady Intervention groups on Friday. Classroom teachers group their classes into smaller sections in order to differentiate instruction in reading and math. Each teacher takes a small group within their class to address specific areas of concern for 60 minutes in reading and math once per week on Friday's.
 - Virtual Tutoring Program: Students in grades K-5 who are one-two grade levels behind in reading have been identified via iReady and teacher recommendation and paired with a teacher from BCS to address specific reading skill sets.
 - BCS Summer Program: BCS will run a 5 week enrichment program to include academics (reading and math), Social/emotional learning (SEL) and a special activity daily to further mitigate learning loss.
- April/May 2021 Parent Workshop attendance numbers:
 - Grade 2: 4/22/21: 14 parents attended (11 attended at the previous meeting)
 - Grade 3: 4/26/21: 10 parents attended (4 parents attended at the previous meeting)

Staffing Updates

- 2020-21 staffing updates: None

Financial Report: Ms. Ariel

- Budget vs. actuals ending period 3/31/21
 - There is a \$728,000 cash surplus through March 2021. There is currently 2.1 mil in the BCS investment account. The school has 986K cash in the bank. Ariel is projecting a surplus of approximately \$350K in June 2021 based on accruals for payroll, taxes and monthly spending. Specific contributors to the surplus is the increase in SPED students in the >60 category, a savings of approximately 15K for textbooks due to FAMIS money received, and a savings of approximately 10K for

special events due to COVID. Ariel did stress that this is not a finite number and that the surplus could go up or down depending on our spending from now until June 2021.

- Per pupil funding for 2021-22 has increased from \$16123 to **\$16845**
- ESSER and APR funding will be dispersed to utilize through 2023 with a focus on mitigating learning loss due to COVID. BCS is slated to receive approximately \$900K in funding through this funding stream.

Enrollment Update

- a. Target for 2020-21: 204 enrolled students
- b. Actual ATS
 - i. Grade K: **27**
 - ii. Grade 1: **33**
 - iii. Grade 2: **26**
 - iv. Grade 3: **34**
 - v. Grade 4: **40**
 - vi. Grade 5: **47**
 - vii. Current Actual ATS enrollment/Budget: **207**
- c. We lost 3 students...
 - i. 2 students moved out of state (Pennsylvania and North Carolina)
 - ii. 1 student is living with a new guardian

Enrollment

- BCS received a total of 83 Kindergarten applications for the 2021-22 school year. New applicants have been contacted and we are awaiting acceptances.

The next BCS Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm. With a motion from Diana, seconded by Feona. All voting members (4) were in favor.