

Great Oaks Bridgeport Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 9th, 2019
5:35 pm - 7:00 pm

Board Members Present: Susan Briggs, Edwin Farrow, Dexter Upshaw, Pamela Fraser-Abder, Michele Garcia, Albertha Brown, Corey Sneed, Christiana Otuwa, Leticia Sepulveda

Board Members Absent:

Foundation Members Present: Lauren Perkins

GO-BPT Staff: Latoya Hubbard, John Scalice, Nadina Juarez

Called to order at 5:30pm by Susan Briggs

Review of Minutes from December Meeting (Leticia Sepulveda)

- Pastor Dexter noted Joe Blatt should be added as a guest
- The spelling of Michelle Garcia's name should be fixed
- Dexter Upshaw noted there should be a change to the Community Outreach Committee in regards to bus passes
- Motion to approve minutes with the requested changes made by Albertha Brown. Seconded by Edwin Farrow passed unanimously.

Principal's Report (John Scalice)

- Latoya presented on this month's Spotlight: Student Council raised \$827.65 for the family of our student who lost a family member
- Connecticut Invention Convention is a 35 year old program that walks students through the invention or innovation process. The PUSH Foundation has agreed to fully fund the cost associated to implement this program at GO-BPT. The program will be piloted at our High School as it is typically done in the middle school. Teachers have been identified and will be attending a training next Friday.
- Student recruitment
 - Intent to return surveys were sent home in November 2018
 - Soft Launch for open enrollment occurred on December 5, 2018
 - 51 new applications have been received, with the highest numbers for the 6th grade
 - Marketing
 - Marketing to our internal families will roll out first
 - Next step is to start community outreach for new family engagement
 - Next open house: Thursday, Jan 17th 5 - 7 p.m.
 - Additional open house dates will occur in Feb and March at Cherry Street

- John noted in the school data report that suspensions to date are 30 OSS compared to 131 this time last year.
- John noted State looks specifically at Chronic Absences which is being more than 10% absent of the number of days students are present.
- November through December Middle School Average Daily Attendance 95% and High School Average was 92.5%
- Parent Survey Overview
 - Barriers to Engagement
 - 81% of our parents feel that staff is available for them to speak to them concerning their student.
 - Family Support
 - More than 90% of our families noted working hard to support their student
 - Less than 50% of our families are engaging in activities which are educational outside of the home.
 - School Climate
 - 86% of our parents believe our lessons are motivating
 - 93% of our parents feel that their students are respected by their teacher
 - School Fit
 - 91% of our families feel that our school is preparing their child for the next academic year.
 - 10% of students did not feel like they belong at our school. John noted this data point is too high and noted plans to create more opportunities for students to connect with the school through classroom incentives and after school programs
- NWEA Data
 - NWEA uses a data set called the conditional growth index which views student progress in terms of growth compared to their projected growth within standard deviations.
 - 39.1% of students met their Winter Projected Growth in Reading
 - 40.1% of students met their Winter Projected Growth in Math
 - NWEA states that schools seeing this is an indication that teachers are just starting to implement data.

Governance Committee Report (Susan Briggs)

- Susan Briggs noted that she has been working with the Foundation on the changes to the services agreement requested by the State. The revised agreement will be submitted to the State.
- Motion to approve Susan Briggs, Ed Farrow, and Corey Sneed to make changes to the Services Agreement moved by Albertha, Second by Corey passed unanimously.
- Motion to authorize Susan to sign Low Performing Bond Agreement moved by Albertha, Second by Michele Garcia passed Unanimously

Finance Committee Report (Corey Sneed)

- Corey noted a few changes to language in financial dashboard to make it easier to read.
- Lauren noted an increase in our cash balance due to the per pupil allocation received.
- Lauren also noted a \$20k donation from the Sackler foundation
- Corey noted in wrapping up our previous audit we will be seeking to submit an RFP for a different auditor for next school year.
- Motion to accept the December budget that was presented moved by Dexter Upshaw second by Albertha Brown passed Unanimously.

Community and Facilities Committee Report (Dexter Upshaw)

- Dexter attended Cherry Street construction meeting last week and the construction project is on track to being completed by the deadline.
- Dexter noted progress seen during walkthrough.
- Dexter noted Michele Garcia is now a member of the Community Engagement Committee.

Meeting Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Edwin Farrow second by Corey, and passed unanimously.