

Great Oaks Bridgeport Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 11, 2019
5:39pm - 7:21pm

Board Members Present: Susan Briggs, Corey Sneed, Dexter Upshaw, Leticia Sepulveda, Pamela Frasier-Abder, Brea Mangrum

Board Members Absent: Michelle Garcia

Foundation Members Present: Michael Duffy, Ben Chan, Lauren Perkins, Daniel Hartigan

GO-BPT Staff: Latoya Hubbard, John Scalice

Guests: Denise Carey

Called to order at 5:39 pm by Pamela Fraser-Abder

Review of Minutes from the November Board Meeting (Leticia Sepulveda)

- Motion to approve the November board meeting minutes moved by Dexter second by Corey and passed unanimously.

Finance Committee (Corey Sneed)

- Ben Chan gave the Board an overview of the current financial status of the school.
- Corey advised the Board of an issue uncovered by the Foundation regarding payments inadvertently made by several former and current staff members into both the CT Teachers Retirement system and federal Social Security. The Foundation is managing this situation for the school with the advice of counsel. School employees are to pay into the CT Teachers Retirement system, only. Accordingly, the Foundation has advised the school to reimburse affected staff members in the amounts paid into Social Security and that the school will be reimbursed by Social Security.
- Motion moved to approve the reimbursement to current and former staff members for payments made to social security moved by Leticia second by Dexter and passed unanimously.
- Corey provided the Board with an overview of the status of the FY19 audit, which is not yet complete but is expected to be completed by year end.
- Motion to authorize Corey, as Board Treasurer, to approve and sign the Great Oaks Charter School - Bridgeport audit moved by Leticia second by Pamela and passed unanimously.

Principal's Report (John Scalice)

- John gave the board an overview on attendance and noted that chronic absenteeism rates are down 5%.

- John noted that suspension rates continue to be down and attributes the significant decrease to the restorative approach.
- John gave the board some preliminary NWEA Data and noted that 51% of our MS students met their projected growth from Fall and Winter.
- John provided the board with an overview of the meeting with the Connecticut State Department of Education and expectations for charter renewal, and discussion ensued.

Operations/Facility Report (Latoya Hubbard/Lauren Perkins)

- Latoya and Lauren gave the board an overview on the status of Fellow Housing and remaining punch list items to be completed by the CORE development team.

Governance Committee Report (Susan Briggs)

- Motion moved by Leticia and second by Dexter to welcome Denise Carey as the new parent rep on the board passed unanimously.
- Susan provided the Board with an overview of the status of the proposed Lease Amendment, which attempts to clarify the school's financial obligations to the Landlord. The Lease Amendment is being circulated to counsel for the Landlord and hopefully will be ready for signature soon.
- Motion to authorize Susan, as Board Chair, to approve and sign the Cherry Street Lease Amendment moved by Corey second by Leticia and passed unanimously.
- Michael Duffy advised the board of the Legislative breakfast taking place on Friday, January 17th.

Motion to adjourn the meeting moved by Leticia second by Corey and passed unanimously.