

*Great Oaks Bridgeport Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 10, 2021*

Board Members Present: Susan Briggs, Corey Sneed, Pamela Fraser-Abder, Leticia Sepulveda, Bob Carlson, Selena Morgan, Christopher McMillan

Guests: Jennifer Bull, CPA (PKF O’Conner Davies)

Board Members Absent: Tiana Verner

GO-BPT Staff Present: John Scalice, Latoya Hubbard, Ayanna Charles, Denise Linares, Christopher Pellegrino

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

Called to order at 5:19 pm by Susan Briggs

Corey opened the meeting by introducing Jennifer Bull to the Board members. Jennifer presented the financial statements and audit findings to the board.

Review of Minutes from the October Meeting (Leticia Sepulveda)

Leticia asked the board to review the October meeting minutes. Motion was requested to approve the October meeting minutes. The motion was moved by Corey, and seconded by Bob. Vote passed unanimously

Governance Committee Report - Susan Briggs

Susan asked board members if they would be willing to arrive early for the board meeting to participate in a training. Susan also inquired about the possibility of members participating for the training and regularly scheduled meetings in person if possible.

Susan noted that John informed her of the state walkthrough that will take place on January 11th with a snow date of January 13th. Susan also noted that the public hearing will take place in person at the school on January 25th at 6pm.

John spoke on Rob Kelly stating that the school should withhold mentioning the K-5 expansion on the renewal application due to the lack of data to provide due to the pandemic. The advice from Rob Kelly was to inquire about an amendment at a later date.

Finance Committee Report – Corey Sneed

Ben gave an update on our dashboard and noted the current cash balances. Ben stated that the loan payable to BlueHub is continually decreasing. Ben ended his report by stating that the school's finances and cash are healthy.

Corey asked Lauren for an update on the security grant. Lauren stated that she has no update due to a delay in the agency.

Corey updated the board in regards to the budget being approved for a student count of 661. However, the school's official student count is 652. Corey will be providing the board with an updated budget in the coming meetings.

Corey reviewed the board process for introducing new vendors or RFP's as developed with the State Finance committee and then presented to the board as a recommendation.

Corey requested a motion from the board to approve his authorization to sign the audit. The motion was moved by Pam, and seconded by Selena. Vote passed unanimously.

Latoya requested approval of Guitar Center, Sam Ash Music Stores & Musicians Friend as vendors. The motion was moved by Leticia, and seconded by Bob. Vote passed unanimously.

Latoya requested approval of Metroguard Security and Risk Management as a vendor. The motion was moved by Bob, and seconded by Pam. Vote passed unanimously.

Principal's Report

Executive Director's Report - John Scalice

John opened by reporting the data from the bi-monthly update to the state by noting the Attendance, Discipline & Academic performance of the school.

John updated the board on the highlights from the renewal application being submitted. He noted the data for climate, certification and overall growth measured against the host district and state as well as teacher retention, teacher pipeline through AmeriCorps, Blended learning, Coaching model for teachers and AmeriCorps & Documentation for systems for Teacher Evaluation, Notification and Program provision for ELL, 3 year TEAM Plan, ELA/Math Framework, Graduation rate and over 90% of students in career or college pathways of choice.

He also reported on the many club activities being offered to our students.

John gave a teacher spotlight to two of our AmeriCorps Fellows, Joyce Bain & Lucy Harden who have been preparing students through the study of chemistry to engage in the making of their own lava-lamps in class.

Head of Middle School Update - Denise Linares

Denise opened up the Middle school update with a report on the walkthrough and what the next steps will be for teachers to understand what productive struggle looks and feels like to both students and teachers.

Denise informed the board on the SBAC Interim assessments completed in ELA and Math and how the teachers are able to apply this data and standard in the classrooms.

Denise also stated the success of clubs and highlighted a student that is having great success engaging in the step club.

Head of High School Update - Christopher Pellegrino

Chris opened up the High School update with a report on the walkthrough and the fidelity of the instructional framework and use of our AmeriCorps fellows in the classroom after returning from a remote learning environment. Along with establishing resources for Fellows to help them with the questions they are asking and the guidance they are giving to students.

Chris highlighted the successes from PSAT & SAT days and gave a huge shoutout to our staff members that assisted with the execution of these days. It Will take around 30-60 days for the data from these tests to be available to present.

Chris mentioned the success of after-school programs that we have running. With a goal of 100 students to be involved in clubs and at this time there are 80 students signed up for clubs.

Director of Operations Report - Latoya Hubbard

Latoya opened up the Operations report by giving an update on Teacher certification noting that the school currently has 75% of staff CSDE Certified, 12% of staff CSEP(Charter Certification), 13% Long Term Substitute Certification with 5 applications pending.

Latoya provided a facilities update on the Eagle sample testing conducted at Corvus' expense, due to recent water leakage issues. All tests came back clear and Eagle reported no findings and the leaks were repaired.

Latoya provided an update on our CSDE Child Nutrition Program informing the board that we have noticed an increase in student participation due to the return of hot meals. Latoya also mentioned the Summer Seamless option program being extended to allow the school to choose items that the students will be interested in during the school year which increases the rate of meals claimed and also gives additional flexibility given the nationwide supply and labor shortages.

Susan requested a motion to move into Executive Session for a discussion. The motion was moved by Corey, seconded by Bob. Vote passed unanimously. 6:58pm moved into Executive Session.

The Board returned to the open session of the meeting. First, Susan requested a motion to amend the vote to move into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. The motion was moved by Bob, seconded by Corey. Vote passed unanimously. Then, Susan requested a motion to move out of Executive Session. The motion was moved by Corey, seconded by Leticia. Vote passed unanimously.

Susan requested a motion to authorize Susan to act in accordance with the discussion had in Executive Session. Moved by Leticia, seconded by Bob. Vote passed unanimously.

Susan requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was moved by Selena, seconded by Leticia. Vote passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.