



## BELIEVE SCHOOLS, INC

### Minutes

#### October Board Meeting

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##### **Date and Time**

Wednesday October 21, 2020 at 4:45 PM

##### **Location**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82789586089?pwd=c1RzVTlWU2ZXMUthb2h3SXQvSnFndz09>

Meeting ID: 827 8958 6089

Passcode: 734280

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,82789586089# US (New York)

+13017158592,,82789586089# US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 827 8958 6089

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##### **Directors Present**

A. Bennin (remote), C. Crawley (remote), C. Glier (remote), J. Fulk (remote), L. Turner (remote), M. Whitmire (remote), T. Hughes (remote)

##### **Directors Absent**

*None*

##### **Guests Present**

K. Neal-Brannum (remote), T. Vonderheit (remote), [aanderson@believeschools.org](mailto:aanderson@believeschools.org) (remote)

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#### **I. Opening Items**

##### **A. Call the Meeting to Order**

C. Glier called a meeting of the board of directors of BELIEVE SCHOOLS, INC to order on Wednesday Oct 21, 2020 at 5:04 PM.

## **B. Welcome and Attendance**

## **C. Approve Minutes**

L. Turner made a motion to approve the minutes from September Board Meeting on 09-16-20.

J. Fulk seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

### **Roll Call**

M. Whitmire Aye

T. Hughes Aye

A. Bennin Aye

L. Turner Aye

J. Fulk Aye

C. Glier Aye

C. Crawley Aye

## **II. Executive Director Report**

### **A. Enrollment**

KN shared in person attendance has increased because we've been pushing all virtual students to come, in-person, for performance purposes: 2-3 kids absent on average. 6-9 virtual. The rest come in-person. We have one scholar who we might have to coach out because he does not want to come to school and we now face truancy issues/concerns.

Now that IPS has gone back, we expect to see an increase in enrollment for kids potentially.

BCC has had 5 students withdraw since the first day of school-- Indy has a high transit rate. Two kids who did not want to go to school and now go to another school. One additional scholar who refused to come to school and has transferred out.

Dr. T requested to see month over month enrollment data and percentages. Principal Resident AA will make the update for next month. BCC has (1) 16 year old and (1) 17 year old that are failing and not performing well. KN raised the question around GED and what we need to do for enrollment. KN stamped this to say this might change the enrollment down the line.

**B. Other School Updates**

Dual enrollment has ramped up. We have 7-10 scholars who are ready for dual credit and dual enrollment courses next semester. Students are working on their applications with families and guardians. The only shift we are making on curriculum after semester 1 is world history. AA highlighted we want it to be rigorous, but it is not equitable for all students. Two cohorts will switch to a more standard/regular curriculum for those cohorts.

We've adopted a software called Whetstone for teacher observations. KN adopted the performance pay system from Noble so that teachers can earn bonuses. The metrics are based upon academic data, village performance, and professionals.

**School Culture**

The second round of purpose pathways meetings with parents will start on Thursday and Friday of this week. No suspensions have been made to date. We've had 4 character academy sessions. All of our scholars start on the probation status and have to show responsibility and hard work. At the first level up, Believe Status, scholars unlock privileges as they progress through the system. Students cannot level up if they have over 6 points. 166 points have been given total this year.

Fall staff outing was at Tuttle's Orchard.

Hiring Season for next school year will begin very soon.

BCC has two potential positions that might be filled this year. BCC has noticed that there are more scholars that need our bus and BCC needs someone who can run more/additional routes. The other position is the ELL teacher/Paraprofessional to help with english-language learners for more support.

**Challenges:**

COVID- Every week there is a new COVID challenge and struggle. Last week, BCC office assistance was around someone who tested positive so she stayed home all week. BCC Lunch Server was sick and daughter was also sick. One BCC teacher had to quarantine in a house where roommates didn't take the situation seriously. Another teacher was out for a week and tested negative.

Board Chair Glier raised the question around other stresses. KN stamped having a young staff is difficult and team members not being 100% COVID safe at all times and on the weekends.

KN added that the BCC point system now includes a mask point so students begin to take it more serious.

**III. Committee Reports**

## **A. Academic**

Academic: AJA shared the PSAT is the first major data point BCC has been able to track since the initial testing.

Quarter 2 started on Tuesday. AA shared the school wide GPA is 2.3 and Williams Village is 3.09.

PSAT is the first data point. School average was a 773. Our goal is to be around 960 at the end of the school year. We compared our data KIPP Legacy Indy data and Noble Network and we beat both of those schools. 15% of our scholars scored on grade level on Math, 43% scored on grade level for Reading, and 6% on grade level for Composite. PSAT will be given again in the spring.

KN added that Saybah Katrina-Russ (data contractor) plugged 960 as our goal. Realistically we should jump 100 points each time we test. KN added that our 9th graders are in line with Noble's 10th graders. Noble data is 17 high schools across Chicago with an average 80% free/reduced and 20% SPED. KN says this to highlight our kids are coming in strong.

KN shared that last Thursday students took interim tests regarding standards taught in the Q1. We'll share this data next month.

AA highlighted that PSAT was a PSAT 10 and we only have (5) 10th graders. Dr. T requested if we've compared to any other school across Marion County -- Dr. T knows there are several schools in the city who are taking PSAT at 9th grade.

KN shared the main data point she looks at is GPA. SAT data should look different at the end of the year.

## **B. Development Committee Report**

Board Chair AB shared that the development committee met for the second time. They are working to recruit new committee members and working on new connections nationally to introduce Kim to.

Christina Grant is going to introduce KN to Tim who runs Dual Meridian. He would be a great supporter of BELIEVE. Benin reached out to Danny Lopez to join the Dev Committee. He was formerly with Strada and the Governor's Office.

Benin proposed the importance of the entire board getting Kim in front of other individuals.

### C. Finance Committee Report

MW raised the points that coding is off from our previous bookkeepers. TV and KN will be doing a deep dive with the bookkeepers to make sure everything is coded correctly for next month.

MW raised the note that a lot of this cash out won't change which means enrollment and recruitment will need to increase heavily for next year. Most of the variances for major expenses are rolling.

MW reiterated that we received the PPP funds and planned to have the loan forgiven, now that we're getting the CARES dollars at a much higher dollar amount we will need to repay the PPP funds. KN reached out to the banker to review what needs to happen with the loan.

Glier asked the question on how much interest was accrued. MW shared tens of dollars around \$47.00 in total.

### D. Governance Committee Report

Governance Committee Hughes presented the five goals for the committee:

1. Recruit up to 7 new board members by end of 2021 school year
2. Develop recruitment plan and board member nomination process
3. Develop board meeting calendar by EOY2020
  1. Board retreat calendar year Q1 2021
4. Create board member development plan EOY 2021
5. Assist all board committees with developing board goals by EOY 2020

Hughes opened BOT to the **goals page** so board members could understand where to drop in their committee goals. Dr. T raised the question around when board goals are due. Glier answered by the end of the year. MW questioned the timeline for 7 new committee members -- end of 2021 or end of school year 2021. Glier responded by the end of the fiscal year 2021.

## IV. Other Business

### A. Other Business

Glier raised the question for other discussion points. None were presented.

KN posed the question around election day and the day after. KN considered making election day and the day after virtual. JF pushed to just do a virtual on election day and wait for the other days. TH and JF do not anticipate that we will have results for weeks.

KN said we will not plan for anything on the day after election day. We will do late start or virtual on election day. KN mentioned that we are mentally preparing for a shutdown or to go virtual. TH will keep the board posted if he hears any word regarding shutdown.

## **V. Closing Items**

### **A. Next meeting**

Wednesday, November 18th at 5PM EST.

### **B. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
C. Glier