

APPROVED



BELIEVE SCHOOLS, INC

Minutes

November Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday November 17, 2021 at 5:00 PM

BELIEVE Schools is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: My Meeting

Time: Nov 17, 2021 05:00 PM Indiana (East)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81101450234?pwd=K2pLdnJ0SXVjamdEcjltanU5QWt3UT09>

Meeting ID: 811 0145 0234

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Directors Present

A. Bennin (remote), C. Glier, D. Bouie (remote), H. Harshman, L. Turner (remote), M. Whitmire (remote), T. Hughes (remote)

Directors Absent

C. Crawley, J. Fulk, M. Canada

Guests Present

K. Neal-Brannum, T. Vonderheit, kneal@believeschools.org, teagan@believeschools.org

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

B. Welcome and Attendance

C. Approve Minutes

II. Executive Director Report

A. School Updates

OEI site visit was yesterday, November 16th. Received overwhelming positive feedback. Positives included: scholars agency and autonomy, rigour level, scholar support, novel topics/selections. One member said it was a "Breathe of fresh air". Received glows around culture.

First physical altercation occurred last week. Most of the individuals from the consulting agency are district focused and district minded. Our biggest areas of growth, we anticipate, will be around SPED and ESL/ELL. Currently, we only have (1) person responsible for SPED and ESL/ELL. We want to increase the number of individuals in our building that look like our scholars. We were transparent and upfront with the auditors about the ESL/ELL issues.

Were waiting on the final financial audit findings to submit to funders as well.

This is Angel's second week back in the building. She will take back the Principal's report in January.

A few changes were made in the report. If anyone has feedback or requests -- please provide those.

Attendance: We are getting back up to our 91%+. We have a few chronically absent kids.

Enrollment: We have five kids in the pipeline to transfer in at the semester. Our ADM came in at 126. We anticipate this to go up above 130. We've been seeing transitions from Pike because of all the issues that are happening here.

Education Program and Academic Progress

Our kids are laser focused on GPAs. College/Universities have moved to test optional, so GPAs are super important. 9th graders are taking dual credit, dual enrollment etc that colleges/universities look for. We have 12 scholars on the scholars of concern list -- this means they have 2 or more Fs. We anticipate a strong end to the semester.

There is a dip from Q1 to Q2 because of the AAA grades which were overbalancing some of the academic sides. Some of the weights were off. Rule/Williams villages have been mixed because of severe girl drama. GPAs across these villages will now be more balanced because of this mix.

SAT Growth Data

We are working with S. Russ out of Intrisinc Schools in Chicago. She is assisting us with data tracking with the tools and access that she has. We grew in ELA in the COVID year -- but math regressed. We are working with IP for math assistance. Trending on par with where we want to be for ELA -- working on math. We have two new math teachers and supports this year. If we don't see growth -- we will look at switching the curriculum.

In January we will have a student teacher to support with math that is bilingual. Right now, our Latix scholars are not receiveing math support in their native tounge.

Formal observations are underway. Several PD sessions -- mental health focus.

Dean of Education @ Butler came for a visit. She came for a meeting, toured. Looking to build a program/partnership. Expecting positive opportunities: summer immersion projects and ELL/ESL partnerships.

Enrollment: New partnership with Paramoun that we're excited about. 2 scholars have enrolled already.

Angel Tree: 12 families have signed up. If interested in participating, please contact Kim. Share with family/friends who may be interested.

School Discipline

4- Kids on Isolation/Virutal Learning

5- Out of School Suspensions (Drug & Fight) . One scholar is now at Hope Academy.

Other two scholars have been testing clean so have been taken off the list. Other

scholar's mother is pushing for her to stay because she's concerned about her going elsewhere. We're exploring virtual options for her.

One staff member is leaving to go home with her family. We implemented villages for adults to help support staff members mental health. Staff has broken up into 4 small groups.

Interviewed two people. Hired one. He is one of Kim's former students from Muchin. He is supporting building wide during the transition. Scholars in Chemistry now with transitioning teacher will move to dual enrollment at Ivy tech.

The chancellor at Ivy Tech is coming to visit BELIEVE tomorrow at 10AM.

Hiring season kicks off over Thanksgiving.

B. Facilities

III. Other Business

A. Committee Activities

Committees should be ready to resume meetings as we enter the end of the calendar year. Committees should begin to plan for meeting schedules.

This is the time of the year to make your year end contributions. Kim will be sending out a list of items that scholars need in the newsletter next week.

Finance Committee: Nothing major to report at this time. 126 ADM -- keeping an eye on for revenue. We received the high ability grant and some other small title grants.

B.

Board Member Giving

IV. Closing Items

A. Next meeting

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
T. Vonderheit