

APPROVED



Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Academic Policy Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday February 11, 2021 at 9:00 AM

Committee Members Present

M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), N. Velilla (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Committee Members Absent

R. McLaughlin

Guests Present

Aerielle Morton (remote), K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote), S. Jahn (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

T. Hanmer called a meeting of the Academic Policy Committee of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Feb 11, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

N. Velilla made a motion to approve the minutes from Academic Policy Committee Meeting on 12-10-20.

N. Maresca seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Policy

A. COVID Update and Principal's Report

K. Mclean presented **detailed the impact that Covid continues to have on attendance and current and future enrollment.**

Aerielle Morton, Instructional Coach, presented the current STEP data for scholars and what the limitations have been since instruction has moved at least partially online. Though most scholars were not on level, 45% have shown growth. A. Morton outlined the action steps that teachers and instructional coach will take to progress monitor scholars and use data to improve their literacy.

M. Snyder discussed a potential federal relief package that would include resources to target learning loss. Potential for a "reading camp" was discussed. The board discussed different forms a camp could take and the willingness of and impact on teachers.

K. Mclean outlined the supports for parents that are required, including scholar attendance and attentiveness.

They are focused on finding and buying new laptops for teachers.

A new radio ad for recruitment of scholars if airing on a local radio station.

Black History Month activities were outlined by K. Mclean to keep community connected.

K. Mclean also shared a note from a grandparent thanking the school for all it has done.

B. COVID Update and Principal's Report

K. Ford discussed enrollment and 4 scholars that have left. Four more have been added for a net loss of zero. She discussed the percentage and raw number of scholars with disabilities and ELL scholars as well as those "in the pipeline." She discussed slow enrollment of K scholars for the fall as well as absenteeism in the school. K. Ford looked closely at the circumstances and measures taken and have seen improvement in 60%. However 30% of those focus scholars have had more absences since fall.

K. Ford discussed 1 COVID positive each in grade 5 and K. All affected are quarantining. She discussed NWEA reading and math percentiles and the drop year over year from 2019-2020. However, there has been growth through the current year. She outlined goals for the year to increase the percentage of students over the 25th percentile in reading and math to 70% of scholars.

Mary Kolb, Reading Intervention Specialist, described for the board what Fountas and Pinnell (running record) data shows. Approximately 60% of students are considered "at risk" however there has been growth of approx 1.6 reading levels. M. Kolb described action plans for scholars and teachers that includes very targeted interventions for small groups.

K. Ford showed the news clip of BCCS Girls scholars reacting to VP Kamala Harris's inaugurations and how the school is celebrating Black History Month.

K. Ford described the food pantry project and big donation from Hannaford and partnership with teh Food Bank for a drive through food bank open to the whole community. There is also a produce "Grab and Go" open to all scholars and their families on Fridays.

III. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

N. Velilla made a motion to adjourn.

N. Maresca seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Z. Nelson