



Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday October 14, 2021 at 9:30 AM

Location

This meeting will be virtual. Anyone interested in attending can reach out to Luke Licygiewicz, Operations Manager at llicygiewicz@brighterchoice.org for information on how to attend.

Trustees Present

M. Snyder (remote), N. Maresca (remote), N. Velilla (remote), P. Romain (remote), R. McLaughlin (remote), T. Hanmer (remote), Z. Nelson (remote)

Trustees Absent

None

Guests Present

Amalia Ortiz (remote), K. Ford (remote), K. Mclean (remote), L. Licygiewicz (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

M. Snyder called a meeting of the board of trustees of Brighter Choice Charter Schools to order on Thursday Oct 14, 2021 at 8:32 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 09-09-21.

Z. Nelson seconded the motion.

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

II. Committee reports

A. Governance Committee report

Martha Snyder reported that the Committee met earlier this week and discussed where we stand on enrollment, currently strong. M. Snyder reported that we would like to engage with the local leaders, including the Chief of Police and Mayor's office to ensure the safety of our scholars and staff.

In addition, the school and leaders will work to be clear about roles and responsibilities for finance, operations and the new enrollment coordinators.

A group of board members will sit with Luke, Karen and Kristina and the individuals in those positions to formalize the responsibilities.

Luke reported that there were two windows were shot out of the Boys' building when the incident occurred over the weekend. We are awaiting an estimate from Pella for the replacement of the windows.

B. Finance Committee report

Nicole Maresca reported our financial position and what the best replacement options are for Shawn Jahn's finance position. We are having Luke take over some of Shawn's responsibilities with more oversight with P. Augello. A finance Associate position is currently open and we are receiving applications currently. Some communications have improved with districts and some efficiencies are being found. Paul reported that this is working. After bond refinancing, we can revisit the work flow and both Nicolle and Paul both appreciated Luke's contributions. Martha reported that this conversation will be happening in coordination with the Governance Committee as well.

Paul Augello reported the revenue on the Boys' side is slightly above budget. The expenses look like they are over but that is due to health insurance pre-payments and over time this will draw down and will balance. The Girls' school is seeing higher revenue due to great enrollment numbers. The health care pre-payment is the same for the Girls' school causing expenses to be slightly higher.

Balance sheet remains strong. District billing was behind from the local districts. We are now caught up on billing and we are following up on collecting. Albany has had turnover in their offices and we are working on getting them caught up with us.

P. Augello gave an update on the Bond Refinance. There was a positive meeting with the Albany IDA and explained we are going to put cost savings back into the school to benefit scholars. R. McLaughlin explained there is one more meeting of the CRC board next

Wednesday after the IDA meeting. Final approval could be expected from the CRC after that meeting.

R. McLaughlin continued describing the timing of the bond refinancing and next steps.

Auditors were in person a week ago and we have a draft report and there are no material findings. There were minor findings on the 550 returns. We are getting that tied away very soon.

III. Other Business

A. BCCS- Girls

K. Ford described her enrollment numbers and that they are close to their goal. Benchmarking is almost complete. The school is fully staffed and now has a new TA and a new TF. A successful Open House with 95 families took place. Covid infections include 4 cases in September and 3 in October.

B. BCCS- Boys

K. McLean explained their enrollment is higher than anticipated. Positions are being filled that the Board approved. Due to increased presence in K grades behavioral demands have declined. The building sub is helpful with COVID related absences. One case each for September and October. Parent volunteers are being considered to help out within the school so parents can be more involved. One parent reached out to talk about reestablishing the PTO (Parent -Teacher Org). K. McLean will present a plan to the Board when it is formed.

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Z. Nelson