



Brighter Choice Charter Schools

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday May 12, 2022 at 9:30 AM

Location

250 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Trustees Present

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

Trustees Absent

None

Guests Present

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 May 12, 2022 at 8:36 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

T. Hanmer made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 04-14-22.

R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.

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

II. Finance

A. Finance Committee Report

Finance discussion led by Paul and Nicole. They want to take advantage of three more years of federal aid to increase the pay scale, modeling the new one on Schenectady's. They propose reducing the amount of merit pay available at each school to help with the new pay scale. Pay scale addresses teacher retention. Paul emphasized that the schools' budgets are lean and efficient. After the federal funding stops, each school will need to find an additional \$400K per year. Martha proposed that a small committee of the board look at external factors (e.g., declining numbers of elementary students in NYS) and determine the right size and scale for the schools.

III. Governance

A. Governance Committee Report

Martha reported out from governance, reiterating the need for a subcommittee to examine the intersection between governance and finance.

B. Executive Session

The board voted to go into executive session, inviting Kristina, Karen, and Luke to remain to discuss current disciplinary challenges.

T. Hanmer made a motion to Exit Executive Session.

N. Maresca seconded the motion.

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

C. Enrollment

Kristina and Karen briefly highlighted statistics from the reports on enrollment that they had distributed to the board. Karen emphasized that the increase in SPED scholars meant the need for a SPED teacher at every level except K. (This is outsourced to Spotted Zebra.)

IV. Other Business

A. BCCS 20th Celebration

Nilsa reported on the 20th anniversary celebration. They are targeting an event for 250 people and are looking at dates/venues and will be reporting on both in May.

B. BCCS Pay Scale Vote

P. Romain made a motion to Approve and implement the new pay scale as presented.

T. Hanmer seconded the motion.

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

C. SY 2022-2023 Calendar Vote

Luke presented the calendar for 2022-2023. It has 190 days, which builds in 5 days for snow days. Start day is 9/1, before Labor Day, ends 6/27. If the snow days are not used, school will end on 6/23. Calendar includes day off for Good Friday, 5/26 and 5/30. K camp will be held 8/29 and 8/30. The afterschool program starts two weeks into the year.

Boys' school wants to outsource this, perhaps to the Y.

P. Romain made a motion to Accept the calendar as presented by Luke for the 2022-2023 school year.

N. Maresca seconded the motion.

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

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

N. Velilla made a motion to Adjourn.

R. McLaughlin seconded the motion.

The board **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 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

T. Hanmer