

Minutes – For BCCS Board of Directors Meeting, January 20, 2021 held virtually via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 5:39pm by Annie Scott

In Attendance:

Board: Courtney Bauknecht, Christina Cruz, Anthony Gay, Charles Heaven, Jeanine Pocoski, Ana Rosa, Annie Scott, Maria Vega

Staff: Nancy Landona, Katie Parente, Barbara Ruggiero, Lily Zhao

Guests: Laura Callachan (CT Charter Schools Association Community Engagement Manager for Waterbury), Darlene Eason (parent), London Carter Williams (7th grade BCCS student, author of Our 1st Protest)

Absent: Don Thompson

Public comments: None at this time.

Minutes of the December 16, 2020 meeting were distributed via email.

Motion to approve minutes – Jeanine Pocoski; 2nd - Charles Heaven. Approved

Financials dated November 30, 2020 were presented by Charles Heaven.

Motion to suspend meeting temporarily to welcome London C Williams for book discussion. – Courtney Bauknecht; 2nd Christina Cruz. Approved

Book discussion by BCCS 7th grade student London Carter Williams, Our 1st Protest.

Financials dated November 30 presentation resumed by Charles Heaven.

- Discussed how some grants are driven by Covid expenses.
- PPP loan forgiveness application will need to be submitted soon.

Motion to approve – Jeanine Pocoski; 2nd - Ana Rosa. Approved

Governance:

- Annie Scott discussed that we are still waiting to hear back from Tim Hausmann of the TCC group and what is expected and required of Board members.
- Donations by Board members may be made at any point although it is preferred that they be made the week of the Give Local event since the donations made during that time also get a percentage from the funds raise by that organization.
- Recruiting needed with expertise in Finance/Accounting fields, referrals welcomed.

Director's Report:

- Covid update/remote learning: In-person classes delayed until Feb 16, 2021. Most teacher finds it challenging to do simultaneous remote/in-person teaching. Department

of Public Health weekly meeting says to stay vigilant and practice social distance procedures including wearing masks. Will survey parents again the weeks before Feb. 16 to see what families opt into remote or in-person learning. Tutors and mentors are available and offered to students.

- Student attendance shows that 12% of students are disengaged. BCCS does have a more stringent guidelines than State of CT.
- Families have the option to change from remote to in-person and vice versa as long as they follow the deadlines in order to accommodate everyone.
- New desks for students came in and have been set up.
- Meeting with Turnaround office from Board of Education and discussed data collection usage and analyzing with teachers. SDE office offer support to BCCS and share helpful resources. There will be a virtual walkthrough next week of some classes and observe and debrief the findings.

Other business: Laura from CT Charter School Association discussed that the budget from Governor will come out in the first two weeks of February. Met with parents to send letters to legislators in regards to advocating on behalf of BCCS for the budget. If anyone knows Representative DiGiovancarlo from Waterbury let Laura know or reach out to him so that we can get him to support charter schools. CT Charter Schools Association held a virtual kick-off event went well, few legislators joined and also a BCCS parent was in attendance and received shout outs for her support. Senator Hartley and Representative Reyes also sent their shout-outs to BCCS and the amazing work done during a recent zoom meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47pm

Motion to approve: Ana Rosa; 2nd Anthony Gay. Approved

Next meeting Wednesday, February 17, 2021, 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted by: Ana Rosa