

Minutes – For BCCS Board of Directors Meeting, February 21, 2024, held virtually via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 5:43 pm by Annie Scott

In Attendance:

Board: Olivia DeGennaro, Anthony Gay, Ana Rosa, Annie Scott, Lauren Stumpf, Don Thompson, Ashlyn Vicencio

Staff: Nancy Landona, Dr. Barbara Ruggiero, Carrie Skaggs

Guest: Laura Callachan (CTCSA)

Absent: Subira Gordon(EX), Jonathan Gotterer (EX), Dr. Joe Johnson, Maria Vega(EX)

Public comments: None at this time.

Consent items:

- Financials from December 2023 were distributed via email
- Minutes from the January 17, 2024, meeting were distributed via email

Motion to approve the consent items- Don Thompson; 2nd – Olivia DeGennaro.

Motion carries with 5 votes in Favor, 0 votes Against, 0 votes Abstain. Approved

Director's Report:

- CSDE decision on the petitions concerning special education reimbursement is scheduled for March 6th. Discussed BCCS financial standing and applying for certain grants.

Motion to approve the transfer from the PPP loan lenders into the operating of \$30,000-Lauren Stumpf; 2nd – Don Thompson.

Motion carries with 7 votes in Favor, 0 votes Against, 0 votes Abstain. Approved

Motion to authorize Nancy Landona and Dr. Barbara Ruggiero to move sufficient funding to cover operating expenses after the meeting with the state on our reimbursement from Waterbury-Lauren Stumpf; 2nd – Don Thompson.

Motion carries with 7 votes in Favor, 0 votes Against, 0 votes Abstain. Approved

Laura Callachan mentioned that there is some Charter renewals on the agenda for that meeting as well.

Students identified as sped have increased a little over 20% of the student population overall.

- Thanks to Board member Anthony Gay for meeting with BCCS staff. The feedback is very pleasing so far and will provide more detail from the surveys completed.
- Board member Ashlyn visited BCCS and was given a campus tour. Lauren and Ashlyn have connected, and they are scheduled to meet at the beginning of March.
- Facilities Update:
 - The boiler in Building C doesn't seem to have the correct pressure valve after an inspection and needs to be updated. Nancy will reach out to get it replaced.

- Sprinklers went off due to pressure dropping which made an automatic call to fire department. Fire Protection says the system worked as it was intended, and everything is in working order.
- Applications for the BCCS lottery are now available. The lottery will be held on March 18th. So far BCCS has received 386 applications and is in good shape for the lottery.
- Academically students are performing well based on diagnostics measuring their reading and math levels. A growth was noted in all grades, except for grades 4-6 which experienced a slight decline of roughly 2% overall.
 - 1st Grade went up from 14% to 34%
 - 2nd Grade up from 9% to 39%
 - Grade 3 had the biggest gains in both reading and math going from 46% to 79% in reading.
 - In reading, 4th grade students went from 20% to 29%
 - 5, 6, 7 grades had a slight decline.
 - 8th grade went up from 24% to 30%
- Discussed DIBELS scores (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) which measures, phonics, nonsense words, and measures fluency in students in grades K, 1, 2. This diagnostic has shown significant growth in students for grades K-2.

Laura Callahan's CTCSA Update:

- Legislative session started Feb 7th.
- Nancy testified at the appropriations committee.
- The budget came out for charter schools and continues to phase in on weighted funding increases for ELL students, Free/Reduced lunch, and concentrated poverty continue to be on track.
- Overall there is a large decrease for all schools. We need to continue to advocate for consistent funding.
- Few more hearings with short session, quick turnarounds on things.
- Ruben Felipe has left CTCSA and Kara has been great and things are going smoothly on this transition.
- Still pushing for charter schools to be included in air quality grants (HVAC).
- Shoutout to Olivia and BCCS Staff who submitted letters of support

Other business:

Discuss having an In-Person Board meeting in May 2024

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Ana Rosa; 2nd – Lauren Stumpf.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Ana Rosa