

Bridges Preparatory Board of Directors

Minutes of the Monthly Board meeting on May 24, 2017

Held at Bridges Preparatory Main campus, 1100 Boundary Street, Beaufort SC 29902

Upon determining the presence of a quorum, Chairman Matthews called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.

Board Member Attendance

	Name	Office	Present	Absent	Arrived Late	Departed Early
1	Dee Matthews	Board Chairman	X			
2	Marty Miley	Vice Chairman	X			
3	James Corbin	Treasurer	X			
4	Peggy Feuerbacher	Secretary	X			
5	Calvin White	Director at Large		X		
6	Chris Protz	Director at Large	X			
7	Greg Brinker	Director at Large	X			
8	Brooke Pacheco	Director at Large	X			
9						

Staff Members in Attendance:

Dr. Ithomitis, Joan Dury, Tim Durey, Beth Littleton, Cassandra Bolden, Amanda Sanders

Others in Attendance:

John Williams, Publicist

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(*Conducted in executive session in accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 30, Chapter 4, Section 30-4-70 (a)(1), for the “discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of... employee[s]” and (2) Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements and proposed sale or purchase of property. . . .)

MOTION made by Director Protz to enter Executive Session at 6:36pm, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.

MOTION made by Treasurer Corbin to emerge from Executive Session, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent. Public Meeting convened at 7:46pm.

II. MISSION STATEMENT

The Bridges Preparatory Mission Statement was recited aloud by Director Matthews

III. PUBLIC MEETING

a. STUDENT PRESENTATION

Payton Mullen recognized by the City of Beaufort with the "Life Saving Award" for her actions regarding a house fire in her neighborhood. Payton's quick thinking resulted in, "the fire department's fast arrival, reduction in property loss, and the rescue of two dogs by another neighbor." Well done, Payton!

b. STAFF RECOGNITIONS

i. Team effort for testing

Chairperson Matthews recognized the combined efforts of students, teachers, and admin personnel that allowed the testing period to be completed efficiently and smoothly. This also included the efforts of art teachers and the SPED team who accommodated students who were not testing.

ii. SPED Team

c. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION made by Director Pacheco to approve the agenda, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.

d. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Chairperson Matthews stated that the media was notified of the meeting, including the listing on BPS website. It was done within the 48 hour requirement.

e. REPORTS

i. HOS REPORT

Dr. Ithomitis presented current student enrollment figures for the coming school year to be 669, which is 40 students over the budgeted enrollment of 629.

He also discussed the Reading and Math MAP scores, explaining that test scores were disaggregated to look for trends. Action has already been taken to correct problems.

For an end of year synopsis, Dr. Ithomitis stated that BPS had made progress in many areas, though there is still room for growth. New staff members at all levels are seasoned and well qualified, and while BPS has lost some very good people, the effort to replace them with highly qualified staff is paramount.

The high school has lost 12 potential students, but exit interviews are being conducted to ascertain why students are leaving.

ii. PTO REPORT

Sarah Murphy reported proceeds from the Port Royal Shrimp and Grits Block Party amounted to \$20,000, all of which was donated to BPS's media center. This represented a yearly increase of \$5,000 over the past 3 years. Plans are already in progress for next year's event.

iii. OUTREACH REPORT

No report given.

iv. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

v. TREASURER'S REPORT

No report given.

vi. FACILITIES REPORT

Chairperson Matthews and Vice Chairperson Miley reported that plans for the new facility are moving along, though the progress is slow as local, regional, and state agencies are all involved in the evaluation of the property during the Due Diligence process.

One aspect that has caused delays has been the financial route the Board has elected to follow. By securing a USDA loan, interest rates are much lower, saving the school hundreds of thousands of dollars over time. Also in the future, BPS can run a capital campaign to help pay down the principle of the loan.

f. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION made by Treasurer Corbin to accept the minutes for April 27, 2017, seconded by Director Brinker, motion passed without dissent.

g. VOTES

- i. **MOTION** made by Secretary Feuerbacher to approve the AYC-YWCA camping trip to Maine at no cost for rising 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.
- ii. **MOTION** made by Director Protz to approve employment contracts that did not need any changes, seconded by Treasurer Corbin, motion passed without dissent.
- iii. **MOTION** made by Director Pacheco to accept the signed partnership with Wenzhou No. 51 High School, seconded by Treasurer Corbin, motion passed without dissent.

h. OLD BUSINESS

None

i. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

j. ADJOURNMENT

Next regular meeting confirmed for June 15, 2017.

MOTION made by Director Pacheco to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Approved by the Board: _____

Board Secretary or Board Chairperson Signature: _____