

**Bridges Preparatory Board of Directors**  
**Minutes of the Monthly Board meeting on January 19, 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	Caroline Lovell	Treasurer	X			
4	James Corbin	Secretary	X			
5	Calvin White	Director at Large	X			
6	Chris Protz	Director at Large	X			
7	Peggy Feuerbacher	Director at Large	X			
8	Greg Brinker	Director at Large	X			
9	Brooke Pacheco	Director at Large	X			

**Staff Members in Attendance:**

Dr. Ithomitis, Joan Drury, Tim Drury, Patricia Bolden, Grace Converse, Kelly Grace, Ashton Converse, Amy Painton, Jessi Mullen

**Others in Attendance:**

John Williams, Publicist, Melissa Kiddy, CPA via Teleconference

**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 6:06pm, seconded by Secretary Corbin, motion passed without dissent.

**MOTION** made by Director Protz to emerge from Executive Session, seconded by Director Pacheco, motion passed without dissent. Public Meeting convened at 7:03pm.

**II. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Bridges Preparatory Mission Statement was recited aloud by Director Matthews

**III. PUBLIC MEETING**

**a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairperson Matthews led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

**b. TEACHER RECOGNITION**

Teachers Kelly Grace, Grace Converse, and Ashton Converse will be presenting at the Future of Education Technology Conference in Orlando, FL later this month. The three of them gave the Board and attendees their presentation entitled, "Making What Matters with LittleBits." The

presentation is a mini-course to teach students about critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, public speaking, innovation, coding and mathematics all through the use of LittleBits electronic building block kits.

**c. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION** made by Secretary Corbin 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. I presented the 2015-16 School Report Card in which Bridges Preparatory School meets or exceeds all categories we are evaluated on.

He also gave our current application for enrollment numbers for 2017-18 and they are ahead of where they were last year at this time with a total of 658.

**MOTION** made by Director Pacheco to accept the 2015-16 School Report Card as presented, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.

**ii. PTO REPORT**

Amy Painton provided the PTO Report

PTO is moving into full swing in preparations for the Block Party which returns to Port Royal on Paris Avenue on April 8, 2017. Still looking for Sponsorships and composing an information letter complete with sponsorship packets for distribution. Additionally, they are working to start up a monthly newsletter to improve communication.

**iii. OUTREACH REPORT**

Next outreach event is Saturday morning at Dairy Queen

**iv. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

In response to the receipt of emails by the Board members concerning school operations, Chairperson Matthews clarified the proper procedure and provided an explanation.

Bridges Preparatory School is run by the Head of School, Dr. Ithomitis. The proper venue for parent complaints/concerns is to go through their teacher first whenever possible, escalation to Dr. Ithomitis if necessary and to the Board as a final appeal. The reason for this is if a person goes directly to the Board with a grievance and it has to come to a vote, all Board members that were contacted regarding the grievance must recuse themselves from the vote. With no Board members able to vote, the grievance would automatically fail. She further clarified that this by no means is to imply that no one can talk to the Board members or request information from the Board, just that it applies to potential grievances.

**v. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Melissa Kiddy called in to present the financials from November and December 2016.

Highlights: On the Balance Sheet, we increased our Cash Position, for the Income Statement, we have had no funding changes and we are right on track for a strong financial position. One line item needs to be clarified for Contract Services and the expenses just need to be reclassified to their new budget line. Also, the state is releasing and additional \$12,600 in IDA funds for supplies and professional development.

**MOTION** made by Secretary Corbin to accept the Financial Report for November and December 2016 as presented, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent.

**vi. FACILITIES REPORT**

Vice Chairperson Miley updated the group on our new location progress. They have partially bush hogged the land to allow for the Environmental and Wetlands Assessment. We are moving forward but never as quickly as we'd like.

He also reported that Irby had received 3 bids for consideration for the repair to the roof.

**MOTION** made by Vice Chairperson Miley to accept the lower bid from JCB Roofing pending receipt and verification of 3 references for like jobs, seconded by Director Protz, motion passed without dissent.

**f. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** made by Secretary Corbin to approve the minutes for December 13, 2016 seconded by Director Feuerbacher, motion passed without dissent.

**g. VOTES**

- i. **MOTION** made by Director Feuerbacher to approve paying \$500 to WHHI for the PTO Block Party advertising, seconded by Director Pacheco, motion passed without dissent.
- ii. **MOTION** made by Vice Chairperson Miley to approve covering the cost of the liaison that has arranged all of the China trips to visit Beaufort and Bridges Preparatory School to a limit of \$1,500, seconded by Director Pacheco, motion passed without dissent.
- iii. **MOTION** made by Director Protz to reallocate approved Italy funds to the other scheduled international trips, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent. Secretary Corbin, Treasurer Lovell and Director Pacheco recused themselves from the vote due to conflict of interest with their children signed up for international trips.
- iv. **MOTION** made by Director Feuerbacher to approve an additional \$6,000 in funds for international trip funding, seconded by Vice Chairperson Miley, motion passed without dissent. Secretary Corbin, Treasurer Lovell and Director Pacheco recused themselves from the vote due to conflict of interest with their children signed up for international trips.

**h. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**i. ADJOURNMENT**

Confirmed next scheduled Board meeting is February 16, 2017 and the annual Board training is February 9, 2017 from 5-8 pm at the Hilton Garden Inn Meeting Room on Boundary Street in Beaufort.

**MOTION** made by Vice Chairperson Miley to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Pacheco, motion passed without dissent. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Approved by the Board: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Secretary or Board Chairperson Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

