

Members Present

Henry A. Lambert, Chair
Michael A. Catlyn, Vice Chair
Tony Betaudier
Mark David
Joanne Hunt (ex-officio non-voting)

Others Present

Karma Suttles (Assistant Principal)
Mary Kate Boesch
Colathur Janardhanan
Deshana Hunte
Imani Irving

The meeting was held on May 1st at the home of Henry Lambert. The meeting was called to order at 5:40pm. The minutes for the meeting held on April 4th, 2017 were approved subject to Joanne's correction of the enrollment numbers.

Finance

The lottery for acceptance to the Brooklyn Charter School was held on April 7th. There were 559 applications, including 272 kindergarten applications. Of these 60 applications were made directly through BCS's website. As part of the recruitment effort, in order to improve the yield, Joanne personally called many of the applicant families. Community Linked is an organization that has been engaged to further improve the school's yield by visiting families in the neighborhood by going door to door. Joanne will go through a trial run with the members of this organization who will be representing the school so as to ensure that they are on message.

At the next meeting of the board, Joanne will present data on the current yield and how the current application and yield numbers compare to previous years.

As of March 31st, there are now 232 students and this decrease in the number of students is reflected in the most recent budget. The budget is currently reflecting a loss for the 9 months to date of about \$117,000 but if depreciation is removed from this then the loss is approximately \$91,000. The final numbers might be improved by lower bus matron and insurance costs for the year. In addition, there is a one off reimbursement of \$56,400 ($\240×235 students).

Education

New York State Math Testing is taking place this week from May 2nd through May 4th. The After School Test Prep program was deemed a success in preparing the students for the tests. The students actually enjoyed the experience and parents were happy that the program ended after working hours so they were able to collect their children. A total of 93 out of 113 students attended the program and there was a daily average attendance on Mondays and Wednesdays of 87% of those enrolled (81 students). The school paid for snacks but no buses were required. The idea of the program was to address identified common patterns of issues, particularly the reading comprehension aspect, such as inference. Joanne, Mary Kate, and Karma all taught as part of the program.

The same 4 students who opted out of the ELA Tests opted out of the Math Tests.

Science Testing is only for 4th Grade and tests everything the students have been taught to date in the categories of Life, Earth, and Physical Sciences. The students were prepared for this test.

Parent Liaison

Deshana presented an overview of the students' end of year art exhibition. The goal of this event is to reintroduce BCS to the community. The Opening Reception on May 12th is for adults only and is intended as a fun night out for parents, their families and friends, and other members of the community. It will include food and drinks, as well as games, music and an art exhibition. On Sunday May 21st there will be an Artist Talk, where students will discuss their artworks and some of the inspiration behind them. The Closing Reception on June 5th will be focused on the families and there will be a Batucada performance by the students. Refreshments have been donated by places in the neighborhood. The idea of the event is to make the school the first choice for families amongst the charter schools in the Bedford Stuyvesant area.

Head of School

The Annual Comprehensive Review is under way and some documents, which were not originally provided as part of this, have now been delivered and the school has been reassured that there is no issue regarding the lateness of these documents.

A candidate teacher for the permanent ICT position for next year will be interviewed on May 12th.

Teacher Appreciation Week is this week and has a theme of Picnics. Teachers have been given BCS blankets as a gift in this spirit. On Friday, which is the last day of testing, the teachers will be taken out for drinks in recognition of their work and efforts this year.

June 1st to June 2nd the Fifth Graders will have an overnight trip to an indoor adventure waterpark.

A few days have been added onto to the end of the school year to make up for a number of snow days. The last day of school for the students will be June 28th.

A second School Safety Agent has been hired, which will greatly benefit the school.

The school currently has several students who are considered to be homeless, of which 5 to 7, including 2 family members, are living in shelters. As part of Title I funding the school is required to have a Homeless Policy. This policy was adopted by the board.

The next Board Meeting will be held at the Brooklyn Charter School on June 6th, 2017 at 5:30pm. The following Board Meeting will be held at Henry's home on June 20th at 6:30pm and will be followed by the annual end of year dinner at the same location.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm.