

Members Present

Henry A. Lambert, Chair
Diana Lee
Feona Huevo
Mark David
Anthony Betaudier
Joanne Hunt (ex-officio non-voting)

Others Present

Pam Sanders
Ariel Arnold
Robert Morales

The meeting was held via a ZOOM conference call on May 26th, 2020.

Joanne Hunt is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: BCS Board of Trustees Meeting

Time: May 26, 2020 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88032109290?pwd=aW5EUTVRZjEyaGx5RFp3a0FaQWtvdz09>

Meeting ID: 880 3210 9290

Password: 3hxxk9

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm. The minutes for the meeting held on April 27th, 2020 were approved with a motion from Diana, seconded by Mark.

COVID-19 Update

Governor Cuomo extended the 180 day school day exemption through the end of the school year. This means that New York State public schools will remain closed and are exempt from the 180 day minimum requirement of days that school must be in session.

Distance/Remote Learning Plan Updates

BCS has added Google Meet sessions each day for all grades. Each classroom teacher is required to be available for students for live sessions twice a day; once in the morning and again in the afternoon. During these sessions, classroom teachers answer any questions that students may have, clarify any work as well as take attendance. Administration found that this was a great way to continue a sense of classroom interaction and normalcy for BCS students.

There was a brief discussion regarding iReady and how the school will administer an end of year diagnostic test. The results of this diagnostic test are expected to show any deficiencies

students may currently have, whether they will be behind next year and where they might otherwise have been without the COVID-19 disruption.

The question about a summer program came up. Board members expressed that it would be a good idea to offer a summer program for students at BCS who are in need of further academic support. Mrs. Sanders volunteered to create a tentative program outline and budget to be discussed at the June 2020 board meeting. The school will look to create a program that will address the students that are currently at least one or two grade levels behind and will focus on strengthening foundational skills.

BCS remote learning attendance from 3/23/20-5/22/20 was 88%. Board members questioned low participation rates in first grade overall, 3rd grade in March/May and a 4th grade class in March. As BCS just compiled this data as of 5/25/20, Ms. Hunt will present an explanation of the attendance rates for those specific classes at the June 2020 board meeting.

Distance Learning Attendance Information for BCS:

| Teacher | March 23-31 | Grade % | April | Grade % | 22-May | Grade % |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Ms. Maynard | 100 | | 82 | | 74 | |
| Ms. G & Ms. Shaima | 100 | 100 | 96 | 89 | 94 | 84 |
| Ms. Martucci & Ms. Calmes | 70 | 70 | 75 | 75 | 76 | 76 |
| Ms. Ivy & Ms. Merlin | 97 | | 93 | | 87 | |
| Ms. B & Ms. R | 94 | 95.5 | 99 | 96 | 96 | 91.5 |
| Ms. Hallett & Ms. Rozzano | 79 | | 86 | | 81 | |
| Ms. Balla & Ms. Toma | 76 | 77.5 | 81 | 83.5 | 71 | 76 |
| Mr. Windley & Ms. McQueen | 99 | | 100 | | 99 | |
| Ms. Plowden & Mr. T | 63 | 81 | 100 | 100 | 85 | 92 |
| Ms. Charles | 98 | | 96 | | 91 | |
| Ms. Fisher & Ms. PW | 94 | 96 | 93 | 94.5 | 88 | 89.5 |
| Overall Total | 88.18 | | 91.00 | | 85.64 | |

Currently BCS has given out a total of **84** iPads and/or Chromebooks. All available devices at BCS are currently on loan to students. BCS is currently waiting for its grant shipment of 85 new Chromebooks which has been delayed with the overwhelming amount of orders that have been made across the country. It was discussed that the school should begin the school year with enough electronic devices for all students in the event that remote learning needs to continue or in the event a second wave of COVID-19 hits NYC. The board wants to ensure that BCS is prepared with these devices prior to the beginning of the new school year. Ms. Hunt will request that our Computer Technician get a quote for another set of devices prior to the June 2020 board meeting.

Staffing Updates

NYSED has offered a Teacher Certification Extension due to COVID-19 for those teachers whose current licenses are expiring or for those teachers who are completing a teaching program. This will allow teachers extra time to take care of licensing due to the COVID-19 shutdown.

Financial Report

Budget vs. actuals ending period 4/30/20:

There is currently a \$680,000 surplus. Ariel is projecting a surplus in June of \$175,000. School spending continues to be down due to the conservative nature in which the school is currently making purchases. The school's budget was for 215 students and currently the school has 219 students on register attending the school.

There has been no clear information from NY State or the NYCDOE as to how the reconciliation will be conducted in July 2020 and how that will affect the budget.

The Per Pupil Rate for 2020-21 is \$16,123 (Projected Enrollment # for per pupil invoice for the 1st and 2nd payment). With direction from the board, BCS will project its 2020-21 enrollment at 220 versus 240. Since the school held solid at 219 during the 2019-20 school year, a projected enrollment of 220 is more realistic and will not put the school in a financial crisis for over-projecting enrollment. The board directed our Business Manager to propose at least 3 budgets, for the 2020-21 school year; one at 220, 215 and 200 students.

Enrollment

Enrollment remains at 219 enrolled students.

More students from the immediate neighborhood are coming to the school. BCS has also been able to hold onto some students who have moved out of the neighborhood thanks to our bus service.

Kindergarten Class update

- BCS now has 34 students confirmed for Kindergarten 2020-2021 (At the last board meeting, we had 26). Our incoming Kindergarten families have begun sending in their paperwork by email. The school is anticipating having two kindergarten sections for the 2020-21 school year.
- Mr. Angel has talked to 22 of the 35 families, one of those families declined which brought our number to 34. (the other 13 are siblings and he will be calling them this week to follow-up)
- We are discussing having a potential Zoom orientation for new Kindergarten families the week of June 8th.

School Website

April 2020 Report: Traffic to the school website was trending down for the month of April. This could be due to the fact that the Charter School applications were due on April 1st so most families conducted their research of charter schools prior to April.

Additions to the Website: Henry stressed that our advertisements should stress bus service for incoming students.

Further BCS advertisement ideas: Diana sent Joanne an email from "PATCH" which is an on-line platform operated via neighborhood for us to look into for advertisement of BCS in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area. Joanne will look into this as well as get information from other websites that offer schools a platform for advertisement.

The next BCS Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom Conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.