

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CLASSICAL CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
Thursday, February 9, 2006, 7:30 PM
BFCCPS AUDITORIUM**

Attendance: Stan Zatkowski, Colleen Brown, Laureen Pfizenmaier, Mark Kripp, Janice Foley, Virginia LaGanke, Katy Donovan, John Neas, Rich Frongillo, Susan Davis, Michele Pearl, Robin Coyne

Call to Order
Moment of Silence

Secretary's Report
Minutes January 2006 meeting approved

Open Comment Period

Before the open comment period began Stan reminded the audience that public comment was a time when the Board would hear comments from school members, but that there would not be direct response. Rather, the public comment period is to bring thoughts, which might become later Board agenda items to the attention of the school.

A request was made that the Health program attached to the PE curriculum be reviewed and perhaps eliminated based on belief that the issues covered should be saved as parental issues.

A parent read a letter to the Board signed by 14 families who requested examination of the relationship and communication between the HOS/ Board and Faculty. The letter is attached to these minutes.

A parent spoke about a desire to see a return to values being more visibly incorporated into the school curriculum.

Members of the school community (parents and teachers) stood to express their opinions on the current climate of the school.

Treasurer's Report

The Finance committee reports that they will begin Budget preparations in March for an April presentation and a May vote on the FY 06-07 budget. The school will receive a larger than expected reimbursement rate for each child, leaving a higher than originally projected surplus in this year. At this moment the finance committee is projecting a surplus in the range of \$150K. The budget committee requests that all budget/spending requests for the next academic year be submitted to the business manager asap.

John Neas reports that Rep. Spilka will come to the school and invites parents to come and meet her.

Discussion and vote on HR consultant

Stan reported that as a result of hearing concerns similar to the ones voiced in the open comment period and after pursuing information with due diligence, that he felt that it was imperative that the Board find for the school a way to bring objective opinion to the investigation and interviews in pursuit of resolution and success. Stan recommended that Tom Johnson, a consultant to schools in matters of climate and school personnel be hired. Tom spoke briefly about his work doing investigation that would allow the information to come forth that could bring equilibrium back to schools when things feel out of balance. He is free to come to the school for two days in the next week, and then can determine if more time is needed. He would expect to meet with faculty, administration, parents and any other members of the school committee who felt they had information relevant to the situation at hand. Stan reiterated that it is the hope of the Board that by engaging such a consultant that clear and unbiased information can bring good decision making in the months ahead.

Motion: To hire Tom Johnson for the purpose of investigation of the school climate and recommendations to the Board as to future steps. Approved

HOS Report see attached

Governance Committee presented a consideration to add a new provision to the Amended Bylaws at the Request of the DOE, to require that all action of the Board, unless otherwise specified in the Bylaws, be approved by a majority vote. The Board considered an approval to change the selection process for the faculty representative -- the Board must now, by vote, approval the faculty representative candidate. Above considerations were motioned and approved.

Mission Committee Nominations are being accepted (this will be announced in the pink sheet) to this restructuring of some Board level committees. The Task forces of the mission committee are derived from the pillars of our school. Task force leaders will be nominated and then serve for one year after being voted by the Board. The Mission committee will serve in an advisory position to the HOS.

Committee reports

-HR Chair appointment is Virginia LaGanke. A meeting will soon be announced in the pink sheet.

-The Tech committee is working on a budget necessary to maintain the wonderful labs it has put in place, and will eagerly spend any leftover money on further projects. Their ideas are boundless!

The Board thanks the large group of parents and teachers who passionately believe in the school and took the time to be at tonight's meeting.

9:00 Adjournment