

**Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School (BFCCPS)**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**APPROVED Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 12, 2011 7:00pm**  
**School Library**

**Attendance:**

President: Lori Clements, Treasurer: Jerry Cimmino, Clerk: Don Tappin, , Lax Iyer, Head of School Dr. Kevin O'Malley, Assistant Head of School Heather Zolnowski and Director of School Operations and Student Activities Joe Perna, Ed Callahan, Tom Viveiros (left meeting at 9:44PM), Stephan Katinas, Vice President: Anna dos Santos (7:12pm), Rich Frongillo

**Absent:** Nav Chander, Poh-Lin Yeoh

**Call to Order, Comment by the Chair (7:03pm):**

No field day t-shirts yet. No other interest was expressed for BOT officer positions for next year other than the four current officers. Ed, working on getting new faculty rep. Lori attended Rube Goldberg competition and found it interesting to see all of the solutions from same set of materials. Dr. O and Lori attended Character Education Partnership Conference. Ed's birthday tonight.

**Clerks Report (7: 05pm):**

**VOTE:** To approve minutes from the April 14, 2011 BOT meeting

**COMMENTS:** Review of suggested changes that we made by Jerry and Anna.

**MOTION:** Don initiates and Lax seconds a motion to approve minutes of April 14, 2011 BOT meeting

**RESULT:** The motion passes unanimously

**Recognition of the Month (7:09pm):**

Andrea Wolfe, BFCCPS's art teacher, brought in some of her students. There will be an art show on May 31<sup>st</sup> (opening evening) June 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>. Dr. O'Malley speaks to the importance of Art to children and BFCCPS. Four students brought in examples of their artwork in for display. Each student came before the BOT and spoke about the motivation behind the work.

**Head of School Report (7:19pm):**

Dr. O'Malley spoke to the strength of our parents and their endless service to our community. He thanks Boston University for the character education award. BFCCPS has been named a nationally recognized school of character teaching excellence. BFCCPS was one of only three Charter Schools in the country to receive the award.

Review of calendar for 2011-2012 school year. Consensus of faculty regarding snow days was that they would like to go to Saturday School in March rather than potentially tap into April vacation or to go into July.

Some comments/questions by the board about different options discussed and outlined in the calendar. Anna Dr. O'Malley asks about Indian Holidays and if that was considered when constructing the calendar. Anna second comment, careful about marking MCAS dates on the calendar. Lori mentions a

concern about the phrase “Service Learning Activities” on the October 13<sup>th</sup> versus Community Service which ties directly into the BFCCPS mission. Lori raised the concern about whether busing would be available on Saturdays, and the administration wasn't sure. There was a brief discussion about the differences between “Service Learning” and “Community Service”.

**VOTE:** To approve the proposed 2011-2012 calendar with the change of “Service Learning Activities” to “Community Service”.

**Comments:** Lori would like to revisit the notion of Saturday School because of the potential transportation issue.

**MOTION:** Rich initiates a motion and Anna seconds to approve the proposed 2011-2012 calendar with the change of “Service Learning Activities” to “Community Service”.

**RESULT:** The motion passes with nine trustees voting in favor of it and Lori voting against it.

Heather speaks to common criteria for charter schools that have been built into the accountability plan. Reviews the “Accountability Plan” document.

**VOTE:** To approve the “Accountability Plan” as presented by the Administration.

**COMMENTS:** Lori asks about 7-8 in “Mission, Vision and Educational Philosophy” section and if they are a “measure” and if they belong. Lori asks that numbering be made consistent throughout the document.

**MOTIONS:** Rich initiates and Stephan seconds a motion to approve the “Accountability Plan” as presented by the Administration.

**RESULTS:** The motion passes unanimously

**Open Comment Period (8:33pm):**

none

**Treasurers Report Part 1 (8:34pm):**

Jerry reviews RFP process for auditors. Key criteria looked at were experience in the charter school world and cost. Finance Committee recommends that we stay with our current firm, AAF, who has by far the most experience in the charter school realm and whose cost, although not the lowest, were on the lower range. BFCCPS has had a very good working relationship with them.

**VOTE:** To approve Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Co., P.C. as BFCCPS auditor.

**COMMENTS:** none

**MOTION:** Ed initiates and Rich seconds a motion to approve Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Co., P.C. as BFCCPS auditor.

**RESULT:** The motion passes unanimously

Jerry reviews YTD P&L numbers handed out in BOT packet. Lori mentions that, for transparency, that the Finance Committee is going to be purchasing equipment and Rich has indicated that he will submit a

bid for the purchase, service, etc. for those services as he will no longer be a member of the BOT at that time.

Voting on budget postponed until after the executive session.

**Action Register (8:41pm):**

Lori runs through action items on document handed out in BOT packet. Media Statement moved to the June BOT meeting at Lori's request. Performance evaluation forms are due in. Lori has received only two to date. Officer interest notifications due to Lori.

**Governance (8:45pm):**

**VOTE:** To repeal Policy #10 - Advertising

**COMMENTS:** none

**MOTION:** Rich initiates and Anna seconds a motion to repeal Policy #10 - Advertising

**RESULT:** The motion passes unanimously

**VOTE:** To approve motion to approve updates to Policy #27 – Expectation for Parents, Guardians and Volunteers

**COMMENTS:** none

**MOTION:** Ed initiates and Stephan seconds a motion to approve updates to Policy #27 – Expectation for Parents, Guardians and Volunteers

**RESULT:** The motion passes unanimously

**Facilities Committee Update (8:51pm):**

Don updated the BOT on the recent meeting with Bob Baldwin and where things stand in that process. Don will send to Trustees the draft documents received from Bob.

**Strategic Plan Review (8:56pm):**

Anna reviews abstract of strategic plan.

**Mission Committee Report (9:15pm):**

Anna and Ed review the BFCCPS Vision Document. Rich expresses an interest in removing the phrase "Service Learning" and replacing it with "Community Service". There was a feeling that the document as presented is a little "wordy" and should be reworked to be more concise. Lori asks that BOT members send Anna any suggestions they may have for a more concise vision statement. Mission Committee to revisit

**Nominations Coordinator Report (9:37pm):**

Poh-Lin not present to give update. Lori has been in contact with Poh-Lin and they are discussing info. to put in pink sheet to solicit new trustees

**Faculty Report (9:37pm):**

Ed gives overview of DC trip. Places the groups had the opportunity to visit in Philadelphia were the Liberty Bell/Independence Plaza and in D.C the Capital building, Embassy Row, Senator Brown at his office, the Capital building, the Chamber of Representatives, the Smithsonian and the White House. The group also has an opportunity to lay a wreath at the tomb of George Washington.

**Executive Session (9:43pm):**

**VOTE:** To move into Executive Session of the purposes of discussing the ongoing lease negotiation

Ed: Yes  
Lax: Yes  
Rich: Yes  
Don: Yes  
Lori: Yes  
Anna: Yes  
Jerry: Yes  
Stephan: Yes

**Reconvene in Open Session (10:03pm):**

The board voted in Executive Session to extend the time of the meeting past 10 p.m.

**Treasure's Report Part 2 (10:03pm):**

Jerry review fiscal year 2012 budget contained in BOT packet.

**VOTE:** to approve the FY2012 budget

**COMMENT:** none

**MOTION:** Stephan initiates and Don seconds a motion to approve the FY 2012 budget

**RESULTS:** The motion passes unanimously. Ed and Rich abstain

**Adjournment (10:15pm):**

**VOTE:** To adjourn meeting

**COMMENTS:** none

**MOTION:** Lax initiates and Ed seconds a motion to adjourn

**RESULT:** The motion passes unanimously