

Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School
Board of Trustees Meeting
APPROVED Minutes
Thursday, March 6, 2008 7:30pm
BFCCPS Library

Attendance: Trustees President John Neas, Vice President Lori Clements, Treasurer Anna dos Santos, Clerk Richard Frongillo, Chuck Mayo (8:10), Cheryl O'Donnell (8:15), Michele Pearl; HOS Dr. Kevin O'Malley, Asst. HOS Heather Zolnowski

Call to order (7:40)

This meeting is intended for discussion of any of several topics: Accountability Plan, Annual Appeal, Discussion of Board Goals, DOE Site Visit, Financial Questions, New Math Program, New Strategic Plan, Questions for the Salary Grid Subcommittee, Self-Reflection - How are we doing or what should we be doing?, Status of the Revisions to the Bylaws, Other Items of Interest

Discussion (7:43)

Collaboration with Franklin School Committee: Michele has had discussions with Chairperson Jeff Roy and the two are making an effort to have a joint meeting. Perhaps a Monday night.

Trustee Presence at Events: Lori observes that there should be attendance by Trustees at more events. Perhaps a process to cover more events could be introduced to allow sign-ups. John is considering a way to have Trustees designated so that the community knows who is on the Board. He has looked at a lanyard with a name card attached.

Proposed Letter to Potential Auditors: As part of good fiscal policy, BFCCPS should re-consider its auditing firm periodically. As such, Anna distributes a letter to be sent to four potential auditors inviting them to be considered. Anna notes that a "financial investment policy" document is forthcoming.

Math Program Concerns: Rich references a note sent by Cathy in which she expressed concerns about the implementation of the math program and the potential for harm related to tracking students. Kevin observes that the school desperately need a program to meet framework requirements and the goal is certainly to have no child adversely effected. Michele and Chuck agree that we should value the strengths that our students have in math. Anna views the adoption of the curriculum as a Board issue: to choose to extend the rigor of the curriculum. John notes that the Department of Education (DOE) was looking for more "differentiation" (instead of "teach to the middle", have theme and students do different but related wok at the same time) in the curriculum. Kevin observes that having too much differentiation in too many subjects is difficult with only two classes per grade; he feels we should do math and language arts, at least. Kevin quotes an axiom: Students do not learn if you don't teach to them.

Salary Grid Subcommittee: Lori encourages questions of the subcommittee as the Board prepares to consider approval of the recommendations on 3/13.

Letter to Foundation: The group discussed at length the draft letter to the Foundation that John had circulated and topics related to the Washington Street land parcel. All support an expanded message and want to see greater progress and collaboration in the near-term. John will produce a follow-up draft.

Strategic Plan: Anna distributes a draft of goals and objectives to be discussed at a future meeting in an effort to forward a strategic plan.

Adjournment (9:32)

MOTION: By Lori/Anna to adjourn.

RESULT: Pass (unanimous)