

Baltimore Teacher Network
Board Meeting
April 27, 2015
5:00pm

Board Members in Attendance: Eric Rice, Chris Sieloff, Mark Matthews, Gwen Mullen, Matt Wernsdorfer, Shanelle Hopkins, Anthony Pena, Curtis Pope

Staff in Attendance: Kia Harper, Sidney Brooks, Demond Brightful, Elijah Etheridge, Ron Howell, Jodi Faye, Hillary Campbell, Tim Hamilton, Ms. Clawson, Kim Johnson

Visitors in attendance: Kelli & Brianne Baccaro Norris

Welcome by Matt, President of the Board

Monition was made that the Executive Board to take care of two agenda items:

1. Articulating the response to general assembly bill for charter schools from Baltimore Teacher Network for publication.
2. Final approval on staffing policy - acknowledgement that we will follow the rules that was already in place. Will revisit the documentation drafted by Eric Rice. Committed to supporting teachers as they move towards certification but not going against Baltimore City Public Schools Policy and BTU's contractual agreement.

Eric made monition and was seconded by Chis Sieloff. Monition carried

Matt Wernsdorfer gave a brief introduction of Anthony Pena as new board member. Anthony Pena gave brief remarks about his experience as a teacher and now working as a A.P.

Matt excused Mr. Pena and session went into closed session. Session returned to open session.

Mr. Pena was voted in closed session and was unanimously voted in as a member of the board as an Assistant Principal representative.

Independence School Report - Gwen Mullen proxy for Kelly Caswell.

New Building has been surveyed and it will happen SY17. Enrollment for new building is at 136.

Independence is requesting a meeting with the Executive Committee regarding the process for interviewing of the new principal. Two teachers at Independence are being trained for master scheduling.

The budget is underspent and with the additional funds requesting an additional laptop cart and more funds for professional development.

Currently there are 10 incoming 9th graders and 38 on the wait list. New student orientation is May 13th.

Looking for two teachers to replace Ms. Black who is leaving education and Ms. Rosvold who is retiring. One has been confirmed. Kris Seiloff has accepted position at Independence.

Bridge projects for the seniors was sent off today to North Avenue.

Graduation is scheduled for May 30 @ 10am. Prom is May 1st.

ConneXions School Report - Kia Harper

School Effectiveness Review is scheduled tomorrow but with the unrest at Mondawmin I will be requesting a postponement.

Given the recent events don't know that the SER will take place. Looking into options of postponing the SER and speaking with persons at North Avenue for the best solution.

Financial Report - Shanelle Hopkins

Independence is ok.

ConneXions is a little over budget but there will be some terminations that would help with the budget.

Auditors - Brianne Baccaro Norris

Provided audit and presented to the board of the audit- see attached.

Eric Rice made motion to accept the audit as presented and Shanelle 2nd.

Audit was unanimously to accepted.

Executive Directors Report - Elijah Etheridge

High Light Denise Dumas (teacher from ConneXions) for taking a group of students to the White House. She was not able to get in because one of her student bought a purse to the security check and would not allow security to check it. Thus she and the student was forced to stay.

She took 150 students to the Orioles Games and they had a wonderful time.

Draft budget for BTN is in the folder waiting for approval.

Meeting adjourned a 6:21

Executive Director's Report

Elijah presented his report and highlighted

Security at ConneXions – Student came in with gun (although it was a BB Gun) it was still dangerous and we will be meeting with Marc Etienne to put security measures in place to have all students enter through on door with a metal detector.

There is a proposal to pull all BCPS Police out of the schools and to place them at North Avenue. Uncertain if it will or will not happen but there is talks about it happening quickly.

BTN is 90% moved in. April will be the last meeting in Carswell and will have a small farewell and May's meeting will be in the new office.

September Fundraiser is still on and there will be a concentrated focus May 1 to promote the event.

Matt asked the each board member to give a donation to show that every board member is financial

J.T. asked for bi-laws and employee handbook...

Meeting adjourned at 7:05pm