

Baltimore Teacher Network

Board Meeting -

May 23, 2016

5:00p

Board Members in Attendance: Matt Wernsdorfer, Anthony Pena, Venus Jackson, J.T. Thornton, Sherri Howell, Lesley Stephney, Shanell Hopkins

Staff in Attendance: Elijah Etheridge, Ron Howell, Kia Harper, Dimitric Roseboro, Deidre Dawkins, Cornell Dews, Ms. Ab, Dan Hall, Jodie Faye, Tim Hamilton, Sidney Brooks, Erick Sunday, Dr. Eric Rice, Larida, H. Hopper, D. Thompson, Christine Stiver, Hollaway, Hall, Antonio, Dyson, Faye, S. Thompson, M Hunt, K. Johnson, T. Franklin, B. Craig, Carin Karakos, Dumas, Plimack, Langley (17 ConneXions) (5 Independence)

Guests in Attendance: Mr. Brad Bixler

Welcome from Matt

Introduction from Matt with Mr. Bixler

Mr. Bixler is from Hershey PA. and a business owner and teacher. Has three businesses.

Went into Closed Session...

JT made motion for Mr. Bixler to be a board member

Shenelle 2nd

Motion carried...

Open Session

Mr. Bixler was voted in as new board member.

JT- Introduction of LaTosha Barnes, JD Title 9 Coordinator from BCPS

Ms. Barnes is the Equal Opportunity manager. She investigate any claims of discriminations. Her job is to make sure there is a place where students and staff have a place to go when they feel that there are any feelings of discrimination.

- Depart of Ed -- Transgender since 2014.
- A federal law that prohibits discrimination sex discrimination on gender identity.
- OCR (Office of Civil Rights) said that students do not have to use the bathroom that aligns with their birth gender.

Ms. Barnes is willing to do a training on transgender and in compliance with the law.

Bixler – does funding come from Congress – Yes

Ab – Would it be against the law for Middle and High School to use on separate floor – No. Bathrooms can be age appropriate with middle and high school.

Matt – BTN's policy is appropriate but not strong enough and JT and Shanelle is working to make it policy stronger.

JT – This is an ongoing conversation. I appreciate that people are challenging us which makes us a stronger organization.

Elijah – Thank

Teacher Forum

Showed Video from Channel 2 News

Thank you to the staff of BTN for the hard work. The forum was pretty remarkable. Had a meeting on May 2nd and broke up in 4 sub committees to address Law Enforcement, Social/Emotional, Restorative Practices, Community Partner Relationships.

Elijah – committee feels strongly with the student that committee an act of violence to a teacher should not return to the same school. Everyone is in agreement that the student should receive a quality education but just not at that same school.

Board Minutes from Last Meeting Reviewed

Brad made a motion to accept the minutes as is...

JT 2nd...

Motion carried

Finance Committee – Shanell

Presented BTN Budget – see attached

ConneXion 6%

Independence 5%

Running in the black at the end of the year

Independence 150 students

Budget is based on 136 students but was approved for 150 with letter attached from Angela Alveraz.

Running in the black at the end of the year.

Have a verbal agreement that rent will not increase.

Matt- will the loan be repaid to ConneXions? Its not in the budget.

Elijah – there was no money received from the District because we are operating in a deficit. The loan from BCPS will be made up at the beginning of the new year.

ConneXions 459 students

There maybe a significant increase in rent. BTN has sent a response as a relief of the increase of rent.

Salaries and benefits are the largest amount on the line item.

ConneXions is running in the black at \$87,000 at the end of the year

Kia – What’s the total cost of the retreat? About \$13,000.00

Jodi – Is the budget not the schools? Why wasn’t teachers allowed to be apart. (Elijah – The budget is the responsibility for BTN.

JT – Brooks and Kia came in and went line by line on the budget and hopefully that information is funneling up to the school

Carin Karikos – Typically Independence budgets \$1,200 for the professional development for the year. To impose the \$1,700 retreat that we don’t want to spend their money on.

Venus – Is there a time for public comment? Yes (Matt)

Matt – You can make comments during the sections and also at the end at the end.

School leaders Reports

- Independence

Graduation is June 5th Coppin State University – Tawes Ballroom

14 Seniors – Send meeting maker (Matt)

June 29th and 30th – 21st Century Schools will be moving Independence to Lemmel

Budget has been set 136 students, target will be 150 thus will be able to pay off deficit this year

Hopefully moving towards site based management

Matt – no reference to the dashboard

Roseboro – Will present at the next board meeting final Exhibitions are June 8

- ConneXions

Graduation rate is the same as Independence

Upcoming dates are noted in my principal report

I’ll yield to those in the room who represent ConneXions for the remainder of my report...

Elijah – Is there a correlation between this data and the report cards passing and failing?

Tim – Generally, 21% of our students of our students are failing. Which means about 80% of our students are passing.

Executive Director's Board Report

Elijah

Board Action – Membership of the CEO

Sherri – Motion to approve the application fee

Venus 2nd ...

Motion carries....

Beacon of Lights Awards – Thursday, October 20th

Still have to make a decision of ticket price

Money last year went to YSIS

Met with the principals and money will go to the schools where ever they decide

Request to vote the BTN will have the Beacon of Light Award

JT made motion to have the BOL Awards..

Sherri 2nd

Motion carried...

Happy to see teachers here and would love to have teachers at every board meetings.

For the Good of the Order (Guests)

Diedre Dawkins

Arts Show case will be at the Motor House on North Avenue. Tickets are \$10.00. Please come

Vocal Performance is on Thursday as well as the Visual Arts showcase

Ms. Ab presented a sheet of teachers concerns... See attached....

Matt – will have follow up meeting with 2 teacher representatives, 2 board members and 2 BTN representatives to continue the conversations.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm...