



**Board Meeting-October Meeting
Monday, November 26, 2018
5:00pm**

Board Members in Attendance: Matt Wernsdoffer, Anthony Peña, Ziva Ritchie, Sherri Howell, Kevin Swearinger, John Berggren, Tessa Hill-Aston, Michael Susko, Brad Bixler

Staff in Attendance: Elijah Etheridge, Ron Howell, Michael Plummer, Ayanna McLean-Principal Independence, Sherri Weaver, Jessica McLeod-AP ConneXions, Anne Rossi-Roots & Branches Principal, Ms. White-ConneXions, Ms. Williams-Roots & Branches Assistant to Principal, Dimitri Jackson-Independence Assistant to Principal, Ms. Williams-Teacher at Independence, William Lessane-Community Advocate, Ashley McGill-Business manager for ConneXions

5:24 Matt welcomed everyone and began the meeting. He appreciated the weight that the BTN board and staff has done.

5:30 Matt suggested to include next steps in meetings.

5:31 Tessa motioned for acceptance of meetings and board approved.

5:32 Leah reviewed auditors' report and said the schools looked well. Roots & Branches did not have an update report yet. BTN is waiting on engagement letter for Roots & Branches. No financial report is available now.

- Principal Rossi inquired about if Leah can help with past audits since this is part of the non-renewal issues.

5:40 Matt changed agenda to reflect the dashboard focus in small groups. The school leader will discuss the school's focus, how are they measured, and how's it going so far. There will be no individual school reports.

6:12 Members reflected on their experiences from the break-out sessions

- Brad discussed how new teachers are struggling with the demands especially around Project based learning
- Ziva discussed rigor in Independence
- Matt shared that 5th grade is doing the best compared to all other grade levels at Roots & Branches.

6:22 Executive Director Report

- John Price rejoined BTN staff to support Marketing and outreach.
- BCPS Board will visit Roots & Branches on Tuesday and Independence on Wednesday of this week.
- Elijah asked for all 3 schools to have 25 members from each school show up on 12/11/18 for BCPS board meeting.
- BTN is hosting a holiday campaign for all 3 schools. Linda Harrison is the point of contact for all gifts.
- All 3 websites will be revamped by CC&A.
- BTN holiday party on December 19th
- Board members must pay outstanding balances for BTN gala by end of November 2018.

Next Steps

- What is John Price's role now that he has joined BTN. Consultant or BTN staff member?
- What is the domain for the school websites so they can share with Choice fair.
- Peña will help with Independence visit.
- All board members should attend Board meeting at 5:00 p.m. on December 11th.

6:32 BTN goes into closed session.

6:58 BTN ended closed session. Board provided Elijah (ED) with next action steps.