

Broome Street Academy Charter High School

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held at Proskauer Rose LLP, 11 Times Square

Date: Tuesday, January 21st 2020

Notice of the meeting was duly given to members of the board and the public.

In attendance: David Zurndorfer, Stephanie Durden Barfield, Vanda Belusic-Vollor, Katie Jaxheimer Agarwal, Jeff Katzin, Herb Elish, Monica de la Torre, Cathy Aquila, Noah Leff, Marlene Nadel. Gail Schargel joined by video-conference.

Also present: Melissa Silberman, Eric Weingartner, Dan Pasek, Nora Clancy, Sasha Hixson (minutes)

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m., with a quorum

Presentation by Pasek Consulting

Nora Clancy introduced herself and explained the charter renewal project that Pasek Consulting is conducting on behalf of BSA. She noted that Dan and Jen Pasek will also be supporting this project. She stated the objective of attending the Board meeting was to provide insight into the beginning stages of the project. The Board will be more involved in the future. Ms. Clancy also suggested that the Board use this time for strategic planning.

Ms. Clancy explained that renewal application will report on the successes of the last five years at BSA as well as areas for improvement. Areas of growth for the Board are also included in the application. Melissa Silberman added that they want the renewal to celebrate the fact that BSA serves a special population.

Ms. Clancy summarized the timeline of the renewal and described next steps. Pasek will produce an application draft in March that the Board will have the opportunity to review.

Ms. Silberman thanked Mr. Pasek and Ms. Clancy on behalf of the school.

Approval of the Minutes of December 17, 2019 Board Meeting

The minutes of the December 17th meeting, which had been previously circulated, were approved.

Head of School Report

Ms. Silberman reported that the attendance in December was 81% based on an enrollment of 309 students. She gave a strategic goals update based on the goals developed by the BSA leadership team over the summer. She noted that she is completing mid-year check-ins with the members of the leadership team, and the Academic Deans are conducting reviews with teachers.

Ms. Silberman presented on six strategic goals that will be the focus for the spring.

1. Academics: BSA will continue to develop and utilize strong systems for tracking student progress, will continue to work on increasing pass rates in all academic core classes by 20%, and continue to improve the co-teaching model.
2. Safety, Administration, & Infrastructure: BSA will update and implement behavioral data systems and continue to support the involvement and engagement of caregivers.
3. Mental Health & Counseling: BSA will strive for 85% student participation in the February 2020 Ohio Scales administration.
4. Career & Education: BSA will continue the implementation of National Career and College Readiness Goals.
5. Admissions & Enrollment: The school will create a cohort of feeder organizations to increase the number of students in foster care or homeless/transitional housing entering the school.
6. Building & Operational needs: In partnership with the Door's administrative team, BSA will work towards higher levels of facilities care for the school.

Ms. Silberman reported that she will be presenting at the Active Ingredients conference in Austin, Texas in early February. She and Gunnar Zuber will be providing an update on BSA's progress with the project to other schools that are participating. They have worked closely with SUNY representatives to prepare for the conference.

Ms. Silberman introduced a new academic intervention initiative at BSA. Using funds from the Arabella Grant, BSA has purchased 50 spots on Edgenuity, an online credit recovery platform. Forty spots have been filled, and Ms. Silberman anticipates filling the remainder by the end of the quarter.

Board Graduation Awards

The Board discussed offering a "Board Award" at graduation. In addition to the Board sending a congratulatory note to every graduate, two students will receive \$500 awards. One recipient will be college-bound, and one will be career-bound. Ms. Silberman will circulate the requirements for eligible students. Students will self-nominate, but teachers may also nominate students who they feel deserve the awards. The finalists will submit essays, and at the May Board meeting Ms. Silberman will present the finalists, and the Board will vote on the winners.

Appropriate Interactions between Staff and Students

David Zurndorfer reported that the SUNY CSI Committee has announced that it will be creating and implementing required training regarding appropriate interactions between teachers and students. There were two incidents of alleged inappropriate interactions with BSA students during the past year. In light of these incidents, both BSA's and the Door's policies concerning staff interactions with students are being reviewed by counsel. In addition, counsel is working with the Door to assure compliance with CSI's guidelines with respect to staff fingerprinting and clearance.

Approval of Committee Membership

The Committee Membership list of the Board of Trustees, which had been previously circulated, were approved.

CEO Report

Mr. Weingartner reported that Peter Gee is doing a superb job in his position of Interim Executive Director of The Door. He reminded the Board that the administrative team is moving offices around April 1st. Once the move is complete, a space consultant will assess the entire building and provide insight into next steps. Mr. Weingartner gave a brief fundraising report and highlighted a grant just received from the Meringoff Family Foundation.

Mr. Weingartner noted that there is a search for an honoree for The Door's Joining in Justice event. He solicited suggestions from the Board, as well as any suggestions for BSA Commencement speakers.

At 7:39 p.m., the board then adjourned.