

Broome Street Academy Charter High School

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held by videoconference

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022

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

Trustees in attendance: Cathy Aquila, Vanda Belusic-Vollor, Monica de la Torre, Stephanie Durden Barfield, Herb Elish, Katie Jaxheimer Agarwal, Fernando Lorence, John Quinn, Gail Schargel, Elaine Schott, Alexandra Wood, David Zurndorfer

Also present: Reeham Ahmed, Sasha Hixson (minutes), Kelsey Louie, Matt Molloy, Joaquin Pichardo, Melissa Silberman

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

Approval of the Minutes of the January 18th, 2022 Board Meeting

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the January 18th Board meeting.

Resumption of Classroom Instruction

Mr. Molloy reported that, upon BSA's return to in person learning on January 3rd, 2022, 6 – 7 teachers were calling in sick each day. Subsequently, BSA transitioned to remote instruction from January 10th to 24th. January 25th to 31st was Regents week, though Regents did not take place. So, BSA returned to in-person instruction for the Spring semester on February 2nd, 2022.

Mr. Molloy reported that the remote schedules were fully synchronized, ensuring that students' daily schedules remained the same between remote and in-person instruction.

Mr. Molloy reported that prior to moving to remote instruction, BSA reached an attendance low of 50%. During remote instruction, attendance improved overall and especially in the senior class.

Mr. Molloy reported that BSA's "Literacy is Key" program launched in the Spring semester for 9th grade students who are off track regarding credit accumulation. Additionally, BSA swiftly resumed credit recovery support for all students who failed a class with a grade of 61% – 64%.

Head of School Report

Ms. Silberman reported that overall attendance in January was 65%, with the following breakdown by grade:

- 9th Grade: 77%
- 10th Grade: 59%
- 11th Grade: 53%
- 12th Grade: 64%

BSA's attendance in January 2021 was 78% while instruction was entirely remote.

As of February 4th, 2022, enrollment was 300 students, with the following breakdown by grade:

- 9th Grade: 88 students
- 10th Grade: 80 students
- 11th Grade: 50 students

- 12th Grade: 82 students

Ms. Silberman reported that recruitment efforts were underway for transfer students. However, students who are transferring are frequently over-age and under-credited, and BSA must carefully consider its capacity to enroll each new student. Recruitment efforts include advertisements at the NYC Department of Education Borough Enrollment Centers, an ongoing social media campaign, and circulation of a flyer among community-based organizations that partner with BSA.

Ms. Silberman reported on pass rates from Semester 1 for the Class of 2025 (9th Grade).

- English: 74% of students are passing English, compared to 25% last year
- Math: 87% of students are passing Math, compared to 28% last year
- Science: 83% of students are passing Science, compared to 58% last year
- Social Studies: 79% of students are passing Social Studies, compared to 45% last year

Ms. Silberman reported that the 9th Grade cohort has accumulated a total of 222.5 credits in Semester 1, with an average accumulation of 2.53 credits per student. To graduate, students need 22 credits by the end of their senior year. Therefore, students need to earn 2.75 credits per semester to stay on track.

Ms. Silberman reported on pass rates for Semester I for the Class of 2025's Catchment vs. Non-Catchment populations.

- English: 36% of catchment students are passing; 76% of non-catchment students are passing
- Math: 71% of catchment students are passing; 90% of non-catchment students are passing
- Science: 65% of catchment students are passing; 63% of non-catchment students are passing
- Social Studies: 39% of catchment students are passing; 82% of non-catchment students are passing

Ms. Silberman reported on pass rates from Semester 1 for the Class of 2024 (10th Grade).

- English: 97% of students are passing English, compared to 78% last year
- Math: 78% of students are passing Math, compared to 36% last year
- Science: 84% of students are passing Science, compared to 77% last year
- Social Studies: 61% of students are passing Social Studies, compared to 40% last year

Ms. Silberman reported that the 10th Grade cohort has accumulated a total of 227.5 credits in Semester 1, with an average accumulation of 2.84 credits per student.

Ms. Silberman reported on pass rates for Semester I for the Class of 2024's Catchment vs. Non-Catchment populations.

- English: 98% of catchment students are passing; 96% of non-catchment students are passing
- Math: 89% of catchment students are passing; 77% of non-catchment students are passing
- Science: 67% of catchment students are passing; 85% of non-catchment students are passing
- Social Studies: 100% of catchment students are passing; 44% of non-catchment students are passing

Ms. Silberman reported on pass rates from Semester 1 for the Class of 2023 (11th Grade).

- English: 61% of students are passing English, compared to 19% last year
- Math: 92% of students are passing Math, compared to 52% last year

- Science: 84% of students are passing Science, compared to 52% last year
- Social Studies: 63% of students are passing Social Studies, compared to 56% last year

Ms. Silberman reported that the 11th Grade cohort has accumulated a total of 143 credits in Semester 1, with an average accumulation of 2.86 credits per student.

Ms. Silberman reported on pass rates for Semester one for the Class of 2023's Catchment vs. Non-Catchment populations.

- English: 75% of catchment students are passing; 64% of non-catchment students are passing
- Math: 78% of catchment students are passing; 95% of non-catchment students are passing
- Science: 70% of catchment students are passing; 85% of non-catchment students are passing
- Social Studies: 43% of catchment students are passing; 65% of non-catchment students are passing

Ms. Silberman reported on pass rates from Semester 1 for the Class of 2022 (12th Grade).

- English: 77% of students are passing English, compared to 18% last year
- Math: 69% of students are passing Math, compared to 26% last year
- Science: 52% of students are passing Science, compared to 28% last year
- Social Studies: 57% of students are passing Social Studies, compared to 47% last year

Ms. Silberman reported that the 12th Grade cohort has accumulated a total of 164.5 credits in Semester 1, with an average accumulation of 2.11 credits per student.

Ms. Silberman reported on pass rates for Semester I for the Class of 2022's Catchment vs. Non-Catchment populations.

- English: 78% of catchment students are passing; 77% of non-catchment students are passing
- Math: 41% of catchment students are passing; 63% of non-catchment students are passing
- Science: 38% of catchment students are passing; 43% of non-catchment students are passing
- Social Studies: 56% of catchment students are passing; 58% of non-catchment students are passing

Ms. Silberman reported that students who have earned a grade between a 61% – 64% are being sought out by teachers to recover those lost credits. BSA has 78 occurrences of students earning between a 61% – 64%.

Ms. Silberman reported on the class of 2022. Of the 84 students in the class of 2022, 58 students are on track to graduate, 20 students are off-track, 2 students graduated at the end of Semester 1, 3 students are pursuing High School Equivalency programs, and 1 student is pending discharge.

Finance Report

Mr. Louie reported that as of December 31st, 2021, BSA is projecting to end the year with a surplus of \$66,000, compared to the budgeted surplus of \$43,000. This updated surplus projection reflects the current number of enrolled students, 300. Mr. Louie acknowledged that the previous report indicated a higher surplus, but this change is due to the lower number of enrolled students than was expected. Primarily driven by enrollment, BSA is projecting to be \$450,000 less than the budgeted revenue. While revenue is less than budgeted, expenses are also lower than budgeted primarily due to lower numbers of personnel.

Strategic Plan

Mr. Zurndorfer reported that a Strategic Planning Committee has been formed and includes David Zurndorfer, Jeffrey Katzin, and Sarah Weeks.

CEO Report

Mr. Louie updated the BSA Board on activities at The Door.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.