

Broome Street Academy Charter High School

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held by videoconference

Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2022

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

Trustees in attendance: Cathy Aquila, Lauren Blum, Herb Elish, Katie Jaxheimer Agarwal, Noah Leff, Fernando Lorence, John Quinn, Alexandra Wood, David Zurndorfer

Also present: Sasha Hixson, Kelsey Louie, Amanda Marmol (minutes), Matthew Molloy, Sarah Weeks

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

Approval of Minutes of April 12, 2022 Board Meeting

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022 Board Meeting.

Head of School Report

Mr. Molloy reported that the total enrollment at Broome Street Academy as of April 30th, 2022, was 296 with an overall cumulative attendance of 77.5%. He noted that 12th grade attendance had decreased because 35 of the 68 seniors completed their degree after receiving Regents waivers from New York State. Mr. Molloy added that attendance for the 9th grade cohort has consistently been higher than the other cohorts.

Mr. Molloy reported that in the past month, there have been two new hires: Ms. Kennelly, a returning BSA teacher who is a certified special education provider and Mr. Fucarino, a teacher with a special education certification and over a decade of special education experience.

Mr. Molloy reported that BSA will be organizing their first ever Juneteenth event, scheduled for Friday, June 10th.

Mr. Molloy reported that in February 2022, 91 unique students had a total of 195 social work visits. In March 2022, 105 unique students had a total of 303 social work visits. In April 2022, there were fewer social work visits in April (180 for 86 unique students) due to fewer intern hours and fewer instructional days because of Spring Break. Mr. Zurndorfer pointed out that, for the first time, BSA hosted social work interns this year. Mr. Molloy reported that BSA will host 3-4 social work interns again next year.

Mr. Molloy reported that the College Career Fair was held on Friday, April 29th with 47 college representatives present and more than 80 students in attendance.

Mr. Molloy reported on the Summer Youth Employment Program \application cycle. BSA has a total of 140 slots with 99 applicants, to date.

New Student Enrollment Report

Mr. Molloy reported on the enrollment goals for the 2022-2023 school year, with a total goal of 315 students:

9th Grade: 100 students
10th Grade: 80 students
11th Grade: 80 students
12th Grade: 55 students

Mr. Molloy reported that there was a total of 470 applications received for the 2022-2023 academic year, with 240 offer being made. Of the 225 offers to the 9th Grade Class, 58 students accepted and 33 declined. There are also 156 students on the waiting list for Grade 9. He explained that in order to increase the number of applicants, Community Outreach engagements have been scheduled throughout the summer. He also explained that BSA runs a Summer Bridge program to keep the accepted students engaged. Those in the process of enrollment are invited to BSA for Campus Tours in July and August. Lastly, all applicants receive a weekly newsletter called “The Future Warriors” sharing highlights of the week at BSA and more.

Mr. Zurndorfer emphasized the urgency regarding enrollment in September, explaining that public school enrollment is down in NYC causing much anxiety among charter schools.

2022-23 Budget

Mr. Louie reported that the Finance Committee will be meeting on Monday, June 6th to review the draft budget. Mr. Louie reported on some changes from the current year’s budget: the State’s per pupil rate has increased by 4.7%, a planned 4% salary increase for staff, and a 3% increase in the Management Services Agreement and the lease with The Door.

Mr. Leff invited Board Members to attend the Finance Committee Meeting on Monday, June 6th at 9am before the budget is brought to the June Board meeting.

2022-23 Teacher Salaries

Mr. Louie reported that teachers will be receiving a 4% salary increase for the next School Year. BSA intends to conduct a salary analysis in the coming year to ensure that teacher salaries remain competitive. Mr. Molloy reported that offer letters were distributed to teachers on Friday, May 20th.

Student Utilization of the Door Services

Mr. Louie reported that 93% (281 out of 301) of BSA students have Door IDs, which allows them to participate freely in any Door services. 100% of students received an orientation to the Adolescent Health Center in addition to offering in-class health education services in March 2022. 23% have received at least one clinical service at the health center. 282 students received mental health services with either BSA Social Workers or The Door's Counseling Center. 7 BSA students are receiving psychiatric care.

85% of seniors have a post-secondary plan in place with a monthly occurrence of post-secondary meetings with Holly Harrison.

Only 38 BSA students have participated in Arts Programming, partly because of the lack of consistency of in-person services due to the pandemic. 5 BSA Students now sit on the Youth Council, a long-time utilization goal for The Door and BSA.

Graduation

Mr. Louie reported that BSA's Graduation will be held on Monday, June 27th at the Hunter College Kaye Playhouse. A guest speaker is still being sought out and invitations will be distributed shortly.

Strategic Plan

Mr. Zurndorfer reported on the search process to engage a consultant to work with the Strategic Planning Committee. Mr. Louie reported that the role of consultant will be to facilitate and drive the strategic planning process, including identifying milestones that can be achieved at regular intervals to ensure progress towards longer-term goals. Mr. Louie met with several consultants recommended by the Robin Hood Foundation and discussed the top three consultants with the committee. The Strategic Planning Committee will meet with these three candidates to select the most appropriate consultant.

Open Meetings Law

Mr. Zurndorfer explained that the requirements of the Open Meetings Law have been suspended for more than two years (due to the pandemic) to enable the Board to conduct its meetings entirely remotely. That suspension will end next month, and we will resume having in-person Board meetings at BSA. Board members who participate remotely will be counted towards a quorum only if their location is identified in the public notice of meeting as an alternate video location.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11pm