

**Boston Renaissance Charter Public School
Board of Trustees
June 15, 2016**

Attendance:

S. Kumahia, A. Kesler, A. Faturoti, L. Bispham, S. Dibinga, E. Alphonse, K. Williamson, Dr. Harris

Guests: F. Shearer, P. Littlehale, C. Fisher

Call to order: 8:12 a.m.

Public comment: No public comment.

Review of 5/11/16 and 4/13/16 Board Meeting Minutes

Motion by S. Kumahia to amend May 11, 2016 Board meeting minutes with the approved change. Seconded by A. Kesler. All in favor.

Motion by S. Kumahia to approve April 13, 2016 Board meeting minutes. L. Bispham seconded. All in favor.

Executive Director's Report –Dr. Harris

School hiring - hiring nearly completed, but there are still some vacancies. We expect to end the school year financially with a modest surplus.

Strategic planning and assessment –Mr. Shearer will be leading this new team and focusing on longitudinal studies and tracking BRCPS students at receiving schools.

- At the retreat we had on June 4th of this year we talked about getting this process started (tracking students who graduate) and so we're planning to start a conversation with Jacqui Lindsay and the board around how to get process unfolded; please expect correspondence on this.

School summer program: 80-100 students usually participate in summer program; 100 students projected to participate this summer

Financial Report – E. Alphonse, P. Littlehale and C. Fisher

E. Alphonse: We had a meeting with Central Source and went over the proposed budget. We have a \$350k deficit, coming from lower tuition rate and higher expenses; the biggest difference coming from health insurance – paying higher fees.

P. Littlehale: Loss in tuition revenue – there is a pothole amendment to budget covered for districts and not sure if this amendment is covering charter schools, but will be following that.

Budgeted health insurance - 22% increase at projected premiums
Budgeting at 99%, previously at 96%/97% tuition. This is part of the reason why the school had large surpluses in the past. We are trying to get closer to the expected reality; we will keep eye on it as next school year approaches.

There are enough resources to carry the deficit budget – hoping this will be a one year blip. We are more concerned about the accounting side and are focusing on the tuition issue.

Question about whether there is money set aside for work that needs to be done on the school floor and painting:

P. Littlehale: There is money built in for normal maintenance items. If we wanted to spend 20-40k on floor and painting building and increase deficit by \$40k that would be fine.

Teachers happy about where we are with the budget.
Professional development is on the opportunity list
Salary bonus: no bonuses impeded for 2017 – this is also on the opportunity list.

S. Kumahia: Motion to amend budget. Seconded by E. Alphonse.

Voted in favor by S. Kumahia, L. Bispham, E. Alphonse, A. Faturoti (phone), K. Williamson (phone)

Financials projected for this year:

Projecting overall net income of around \$500k.
Going to suggest setting aside money for capital projects: HVAC, flooring, security upgrades; set aside money from cash flow

Audits - 2016 fiscal year audit has started, done in less than 2 days and will be back in September for full audit, so far preliminary audits are going well.

Governance and Nomination/Parents of Renaissance

S. Kumahia: Would like to focus on expanding the board and leveraging on expertise in community. We can have people join who do not have to be on the full board, but just participate as committee members. We're looking for people with a finance background and access to capital and wealth; marketing; academic expertise. At the outset I asked for people to provide 2-3 names, would love to see if we can provide names by end of the summer.

Dr. Harris: Do we need a uniform script when we ask people? What about joining in advisory capacity?

S. Kumahia: There can be two paths: 1 path – becoming a full board member; introduce them to school, give them a tour. The 2nd path – one can become a committee member

L. Bispham: Someone with legislative access could also be good to have on the board

S. Kumahia: A government liaison was discussed at the June 4th meeting; it would be good to be proactive in this area as well.

A. Faturoti – I can help out in the legislative access aspect as well.

Updates/Important Dates/Upcoming Events

S. Kumahia: Young Kings/First Ladies program at the school – we should have a consistent mentoring program with these students to build upon relationships with them

S. Dibinga: Family Fun Day – this Saturday between 1-4pm. I would suggest also doing something like this for the fall to get parents and teachers together and build relationships between them.

S. Kumahia: We will work on a group calendar for upcoming events.

S. Dibinga: A lot of parents have approached me about the expansion to the 8th grade.

S. Kumahia: Expansion came up at June 4th meeting – we should get a committee to see if we should apply for expansion. Specific people have expressed interest in being in that committee, and so we will follow up on that.

Development update – As you can see in the budget, we will have a Director of Advancement who will do fundraising as well as work on how to position school in the community, leverage, etc.

Dr. Harris: Hopefully will have someone in place by Sept/Oct of this year in that position.

Tomorrow, BOT sponsored lunch for all faculty and staff from 1130am-1pm.

S. Kumahia: Dr. Harris' contract – we have been in contact with Alison Bagg and the commissioner and have had conversations around the critical shortage waiver and

its applicability. We should have a response in the next few weeks, no later than July 1st.

S. Kumahia: We will have to have another meeting at some point this summer.

S. Kumahia: Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:16 a.m. Seconded by A. Kesler.