

BETHANY CHARTER SCHOOL – November 4, 2019 Board Meeting

Please be aware that these minutes are not official until approved at the next board meeting.

Board members present: Karyn Buchheit, Bryan Rose, Michael Slevcove and Sarah White.
Absent: Sally Gauvin. Kathy Frank present as administrator. 3 visitors present.

Karyn Buchheit called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Sarah White moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of approving the agenda for the November 4, 2019 board meeting and approving the minutes for the October 7, 2019 board meeting. Bryan Rose seconded. Passed unanimously.

Karyn Buchheit turned meeting chair over to Michael Slevcove at 7:07 pm.

Discussion/presentation with Kate Pattison from Oregon Department of Education.

- It is common for charter schools to want to ask for more than the 80% minimum; BCS needs to remain aware of all of the additional support that we receive from SFSD and the good relationship we have with the district.
- Do pre-research before contract negotiations with district – know BCS assets/strengths prior to any negotiations. Rally BCS community for support of SFSD – what does the district want/need?
- Some discussion on inter-district transfers – may be possible to add priority admission for BCS graduating 8th graders and/or lower tuition rate
- Student Success Act
 - Add about \$2 billion per 2-year state budget cycle. Some goes to the general education fund. 50% goes to direct grants – these are allocation based grants. BCS would get to participate with SFSD under them. Would need to do a grant agreement with SFSD.
 - 4 allowable categories
 - Increased instructional time – pre-K summer camp? STEM summer camp?
 - Student safety needs
 - Well rounded education
 - Reducing class sizes
 - Memorandum of understanding with district; would need to follow rules, report back; can set own targets. 1st payment would come through in August; quarterly distribution of funds.
- Capital investments in facilities – loan option with district worth discussing. Many charter schools do private loans.
- Non-profit bond; privately bonded
- Most charter schools need to be at an enrollment of approximately 350 ADM to be sustainable
- Capital campaign
- Oregon Charter School improvement grant – federal grant administered by state, they are coming to end of cycle and have not yet applied for next. Might be possible to apply directly to federal government for expansion. Oregon definition of expansion includes increase in grade levels or significant expansion of seats. Not sure what definition federal would use.

Budget Report – looks good; question on figures assigned to categories by district. Acknowledge check numbers 1721-1724 in amount of \$755.96 and 12 debit transactions in amount of \$1,024.89.

Meet and greet with SFSD superintendent on November 25, 2019 at 8:00 am

Audience with visitors

- Booster Club liaison – not present
- Bobcat House – not present

Teacher presentation by Erin Turner

- Some overview of schedule
- Spanish is taught once a week by a parent; practiced daily
- Super improvement board – earn sticker for improvement – this is individualized
- Students are able to pick seating at end of day for next day
- Some overview of iPad work
- Feel aide time is being used efficiently.

Administrator Report –

Enrollment: K=15 1st=14 2nd=16 3rd=15 4th=17 5th=15
6th=15 7th=16 8th=12 Total ADM =135

It is difficult to believe that the Thanksgiving month is upon us! The children continue to connect with their classmates, staff, and the entire student body. There have already been several events and programs that our school community has enjoyed. We had a wonderful Fall Carnival in October. Families enjoyed games, bouncy house, face painting, baked goods, silent auction, bingo, balloon art and so much more. We thank all of our volunteers for their time and commitment, without them this event would not have been possible.

Bethany Charter School Improvement Plan:

Vision: Student, Teacher, School Culture, Rigor and Relevance

- 3rd and 4th grade are Studying Oregon geography and agriculture – Coastal region produces cranberries So the class indulged in sampling Craisins and fresh cranberries. They have been reading about cowboys and the wild west, a question arose “Do cowboys still exist?” they researched in their curriculum “Grown in Oregon” maps and located beef producing areas in our state. Drew “home on the range pictures” and two students wrote an original cowboy song. They cracked Oregon hazelnuts for their harvest party. They also have been studying inertia gravity and a student was so inspired to continue The unity and is building models at home to share with the class.
- 1st and 2nd grade honored October fire safety this month, they learned about thermal imaging and safety equipment. A guest firefighter (Mr. Busch) came and shared with the class. In literature they are pairing fiction and non-fiction texts to make connections and comparisons – their latest was a National Geographic Bats and Stellaluna.
- 5th and 6th Grade November Happenings: their class is full of aspiring authors so this month they are participating in the National Novel Writing Month for Young Writers. Students set a minimum word count goal of 1,200 words for the month of November. Some students have chosen to set high goals of over 5,000 words. As of today, all the students are on target to meet their goals. A few have over 1,000 words written thus far! As part of the program, they get daily advice from published authors, tools to help with writer’s block, and the opportunity to publish their novel upon completion. They will be hosting a book signing event in December and invite parents to attend with a cheese and juice bar. A second grade sibling chose to write as well.
- BCS is going back in time! As part of our continuing Colonial Unit, students are studying Colonial economy and trades. They have been assigned a trade and are conducting research on their trade. The research will be used for a living museum for the younger grades hosted on November 21st. This museum exhibit will include a sign, artifacts, a poster board or brochure that fully explains the trade, and an activity for the younger students to complete at each station so they understand what life was like in Colonial times.
- Kindergarten did a lot of learning about apples and pumpkins in October then we were able to visit EZ Orchards and see a real apple orchard and pumpkin patch while learning more about them from the farmers there. Kinder also honored fire safety month with a few activities including a scavenger hunt

around the school looking for safety equipment. And invited in a guest speaker to do a demonstration and talk more about fire safety.

- 7th and 8th has been studying Medieval times with skits, games, and creative writing. In Language Arts we are entering the Elk's essay contest, "What Freedom of Speech Means to Me"; for some real-world writing In science we are studying Newton's Laws through hands-on stations, including setting off some "bottle rockets"; this will culminate in a student-choice project Choir music students are participating in Genius Hour projects on Wed and Fri, studying topics of their choice
 - Mrs. Merklin is coaching LEGO robotics with the team meeting 3 days a week until competition in early December.
 - Mrs. Posegate is coaching upper grade battle of the books team and they are meeting on Fridays. Mrs. King is the coach for the primary grade battle.
 - Mr. Perrine, a grandparent of a Bethany students, is volunteering his expertise to assist with the girls' basketball coaching.
 - It is opera week at the charter-classrooms and music department are giddily getting ready for the Friday production of LaBohe'me based upon a novel by Henri Murger. Our Booster club is sponsoring the opera to activate the artistry of others and expand the teaching and learning repertoires at the Charters.

Update from Kathleen Kelly-Special services

- Working on getting Dr. O back in the building on Wednesday mornings to support kids. Bethany lost 19 hours of sped time this year and we're feeling the pinch.
- Good referrals coming in from teachers. It shows they have concerns and are voicing them. They are being responded to in a timely manner.
- An 8th grade student spending time in kindergarten is going well. It's helpful to the teacher, students and especially to the 8th grader who is gaining skills to help her in the future.
- Three 8th grade students with learning issues, are being individually supported, helping bridge the gap between middle and high school.

Mrs. Wilson-PE

Halloween dance off competition amongst classes, lessons in judo and yoga.

Music Department

School will be presenting a Holiday Road Trip, with the band performing a couple numbers and Strings hoping to perform a piece or two at Christmas program.

Facility: soccer goal set up, baseball backdrop, and Mrs. Wilsons IKEA plans

Staffing: request to hire an instructional assistant to help with the learning systems at the Charter.

Math						
Grade	3	4	5	6	7	8
State	46	42	38	37	40	38
District	50	44	39	46	52	49
Bethany	81	47	50	69	75	50

Reading						
Grade	3	4	5	6	7	8
State	47	49	54	52	55	53
District	56	62	62	57	67	67
Bethany	81	67	64	75	77	81

November Calendar: Girls' basketball games throughout the month, 8th Booster Club Meeting; 11th No School Veteran's Day; 12th -15th Scholastic Book fair; 21st 5th/6th grade Colonial museum; 22nd Thanksgiving Feast; 25th - 26th Parent Teacher conferences,

Board Reports

- Bryan Rose and Michael Slevcove met with Loren Stanley – testing cost on water should be going down; need more bark around swingset – bark needs to go out 20 feet in all directions from center of swingset

- Sarah White and Sally Gauvin met in regards to fundraising; started work on plan; still need more research
- Sarah White reported that she is involved with SFSD's equity committee

Correspondence – none

Discussion Items

- a. Quotes for path – path slope needs to be 4% or less; it would need to be concrete in order to maintain that percentage. Concrete would run between \$40,000-\$5,000. Check for second opinion/other options. Look at other possible path routes. Also need to consider making greenhouse more ADA accessible.
- b. Policy revision for Policy for Meeting Guidelines policy 0030f
- c. Open board positions – there are 2 open board positions this year – position numbers 1 and 2. Nomination forms need to be back by the December 2, 2019 board meeting. Forms are available in the school office. Notice will be sent out.

Audience with visitors

- Question about success act and qualifying
- Additional aide was not presented to teachers as a possibility
- Staff want to support board; survey of staff to get feedback on project.

Action Items

- a. Sarah White moved to approve the changes to the Policy for Meeting Guidelines. Bryan Rose seconded. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:57 pm