

MINUTES

Belmont Academy Governing Board

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Date | time: 3/25/2019 7:00 PM | Meeting called to order by: Luke Sparks, Chairman

In Attendance

Governing Board:

Luke Sparks, Chairman – present

Will Myers, Secretary – present (arrival 7:10pm)

Jay Poole, board member – present

Shellie Young, board member – present

Luke Sparks, board member – present

Katie Tyler, board member – present

Jessica Klanderud, board member – present

Jonny Handy, Treasurer – present

Belmont Academy:

Lawton Unrau, CEO

Ron Barker, Principal

Additional Attendees:

Jim Zuber, Contractor

Staff, students and parents

A Quorum was present.

Public notice has been confirmed regarding this board meeting

Agenda

General Business:

1. Call meeting to order and take attendance
2. Confirm public notice for the meeting has been established
Public notice of the meeting was confirmed
3. Opportunity provided to move any Consent Item to the Action Item agenda for board discussion and review. Close and adopt the agenda.
Approving “New Hires and Staffing Changes” was removed from the consent agenda as there are no changes to report.
Mr. Sparks requested that the presentation by Mr. Zuber and the Additional Board Discussion be held following the CEO Report at which point the agenda was closed and adopted by the Governing Board.
4. Review **DRAFT school board meeting notes** from February 18, 2019
5. Review **DRAFT Vision and Planning School Board Workshop meeting notes** from March 6, 2019

Mr. Handy made an invitation for Public Comment on any Action Item. There was no public comment regarding an Action Item. In addition, the opportunity was provided by Mr. Sparks if someone wanted to speak on another topic.

A Belmont parent in attendance explained that traffic is a problem at the intersection of Hwy 47 and Walter Ave and is a significant safety concern. Mr. Zuber who suggested contacting special projects with FDOT District 2. Mr. Poole was able to add that Greg Evans is an FDOT point of contact for road concerns.

Mrs. Lashley, Belmont teacher, recommended that the Belmont school calendar be developed by committee annually.

Consent Agenda Vote: The administration recommends approval of the consent agenda. Items with a * have supporting reports.

1. Appoint Ron Barker to be the Representative to Facilitate Parental Involvement per FS 1002.33(9)(p)(2) currently held by Principal Ron Barker
2. ***School Board Meeting Notes** February 18, 2019
3. ***Vision and Planning School Board Workshop meeting notes** from March 6, 2019
4. ***One (1) year renewal for the Belmont Academy web site hosting contract with Edlio**
6. ***Ratify that the 2019-2020 projected enrollment capacity will be 600 including VPK (VPK attendance projected to be 32).**
7. ***Approve the 2019-2020 Belmont school calendar**

Mr. Poole made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Mrs. Tyler seconded the motion and with no further discussion the consent agenda was approved unanimously.

PTO Report:

1. Success of the Fun Run fundraiser and the effects of the event on Belmont Academy including \$5,000 donation for technology.
2. Planning for 2019-2020 transition
Mrs. Tyler reported that the Fun Run fundraiser was a good event and commended Mr. Summerall and the many supporters of the event for its success. Overall the PTO meeting participation has been low, but Mr. Summerall has been working on planning the 2019-2020 transition. Mrs. Tyler added that Mrs. Pierce has been a strong and valuable support for the PTO. Mr. Sparks agreed that it is essential that the path forward be developed and expressed appreciation for everything the PTO has done.

Principal Report:

1. Status of Open Enrollment and the School Lottery

Mr. Barker presented and reviewed a report showing projected 2019-2020 class sizes by grade as well as waitlisted student counts by grade. Based on the current availability of seats Mr. Barker showed that there is expected to be 533 student seats filled for K-12. Mr. Handy noted that it is important for parents to be aware that even though students are waitlisted that there is still opportunity for them to obtain a seat in Belmont depending on unenrollment over the summer.

2. Update regarding AdvancED accreditation renewal 2019-2020

Mr. Barker explained that AdvancED has extended Belmont's accreditation through June 2021 with no further action from Belmont. The district will be updated on Belmont's status.

3. Condition of School Climate including both students and staff

Mr. Barker updated the directors regarding upcoming FSA testing schedules and readiness. In addition, Mr. Barker shared the success of teacher participation in professional development events attended including "The Ron Clark Academy" and "Get Your Teach On". Teachers will be sharing their experience with staff.

CEO Report:

1. Additional security fencing quotes (3), with recommendations.

Mr. Unrau provided an overview of the quotes and their scope. Also recommending that the double entry automatic gate quote provided the greatest security from a fencing viewpoint. The quotes are informational at this time and per Mr. Poole's suggestion, any work may be included as part of a greater scope of work (and financing) relating to upcoming expansion, if something does not get approved sooner.

2. Laptop purchase to replace obsolete teacher laptops. Utilizing PTO technology donation to facilitate purchase.

Mr. Unrau pointed out the preferred quotes provided are for new laptops. He mentioned that with the recent acquisition of laptops by Belmont through the general fund budget that the \$5,000 PTO donation would likely be enough to purchase sufficient teacher laptops to replace all obsolete teacher laptops. The director's consensus was that the proposal including the 5-year warranty on these new devices would be worth the extra cost and that additional funding through the general fund can be evaluated if needed to get this completed.

3. 2020 budget is in progress. Discuss any important budgetary planning and considerations

i. Facilities

ii. Staffing

iii. Technology

iv. Additional Primary Considerations

No immediate input on specific items was provided by the directors

4. Records management - planning

Mr. Unrau provided an overview that an upcoming plan would be developed and may involve additional software or management needs. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Mr. Handy asked what the status is regarding the E-Rate program. Mr. Unrau explained that Belmont is approved for Category 1 (internet) and Category 2 (equipment) for 2019-2020 and that reimbursement would occur during that period. Mr. Unrau provided an overview on some of the potential savings excluding costs of the program itself.

Presentation:

Jim Zuber to provide an update on the permit from the DOH and related details

Mr. Zuber provided an overview of the scope of the permit received. He explained that his new proposal will help provide the multi-year plan. He provided an overview on a few of the options available to Belmont including expansion to the second floor of the main building.

Additional Governing Board Discussion:

1. Land purchase negotiations and options. Purchases and lease proposal choices.
Various land purchase options were reviewed as directed by Mr. Sparks including the recent offer to CFC that was not accepted as drafted by Belmont. He proposed that Mr. Scott Stewart could assist working with Belmont's interests in mind with land purchases.
2. Next steps regarding planning and financing
Conversation with lenders or other funding sources can be started on a preliminary basis by Mr. Unrau. Various land purchase options may be pursued with the assistance of Mr. Stewart acting in a support of Belmont role. Mr. Sparks will be in communication with Mr. Stewart.

Action Items: Items with a * have supporting documentation.

1. *Approval of All Seasons Planning and Design Proposal for expansion planning
Mr. Poole made a motion to approve the proposal from All Seasons Planning and Design. Mrs. Tyler seconded the motion and a discussion followed. Mr. Zuber explained that he will launch a survey involving key points and goals. He explained that he may also investigate bids for structural steel. A first draft will be provided to the Governing Board ASAP as time is of the essence. Mr. Poole suggested that at some point an additional meeting of the directors may be important to work through the details. Mr. Handy mentioned that Belmont does have pressing needs. After discussion Mr. Sparks called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.
2. *Review the following manuals and make any modifications and approve for the 2019-2020 school year
 - i. Uniform Dress Code
 - ii. Parent Student Enrollment Agreement
 - iii. Code of Student Conduct
 - iv. Student and Parent Handbook

Mr. Handy suggested that the minimum volunteer hours requirement to retain a student's seat be met no later than March 1 annually so that the requirement would align better with the open enrollment period. Mr. Poole made a motion to approve the four (4) handbooks as listed with the suggested modification to the Student and Parent Handbook and related documentation. Ms. Young seconded the motion and an opportunity for additional discussion was opened. Mrs. Lashley explained her role with BACSBiz and student activity support and that she is requesting that the school board approve that a Cardinal Red Hoodie be added to the approved clothing list. Mr. Poole amended his motion to include the new hoodie color be approved, Mrs. Young seconded the motion and with no further discussion the directors voted unanimously to approve the motion.

3. *Determine 2019-2020 High School course scheduling plan (7 period or block scheduling)

Mr. Poole made a motion to approve the 7-period plan for the 2019-2020 school year. Mr. Myers seconded the motion. Mr. Barker provided additional information he had obtained on block scheduling based on schools he had recently spoken with about the matter. Mrs. Lashley suggested a consultant from FDOE may be a good option and offered to provide names/numbers. Mr. Handy said that he would like to see more time to research the block scheduling before finalizing this decision for 2019-2020. After the close of discussion, the directors voted to approve the motion with only Mr. Handy voting to not approve the motion. The motion carried by majority vote. The directors expressed interest in continuing to explore the possibility for the future beyond the upcoming school year.

Closing Comments from Directors:

Mr. Sparks thanked all for attending and that he appreciated all guests that attended the meeting and their input.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm by Mr. Sparks, Chairman.