

**Beacon Academy Charter District 4124**  
 Board Meeting Minutes, February 25, 2009 5:00 p.m.  
 12325 Highway 55, Plymouth, MN 55441

**CALL TO ORDER** Tam Harken called the meeting to order to at 5:04 pm.

**ROLL CALL** (present at time of meeting unless otherwise noted)

Board Member	Present	Absent
Cathy Burke	✓	
Bob Zarriello	✓	
Tam Harken	✓	
Kalin Farrell	✓	

Board Member	Present	Absent
Scott DesBles		✓
Jordan Ford (ex-officio)	✓	
Gretchen McQuillan	✓	
Candace Newman	✓	

Board Member	Present	Absent
Anne Ingvaldson	✓	
Lori Karcz	✓	
Anne Marie Roder	✓	
Terese Corey Blanck	✓	

**ADVISORY MEMBERS** Keith Johnson, Sean Koster

**MISC. ATTENDEES**

**SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT** *(choral reading) "To provide Twin Cities' families with a proven, rigorous and content-rich curriculum integrated with sequential Spanish language instruction. The School will create a results-driven small learning community built around a culture of positive character development and committed parental involvement."*

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:** Forwarded by Candace, seconded by Gretchen, unanimously approved.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**  
 Expulsion Meeting 2-11-09: Kalin forwarded motion to approve; Ann Marie seconded it, unanimously approved.  
 Board Meeting 2-11-09: Candace forwarded motion to approve; Ann Marie seconded it, unanimously approved.

**Open Floor Comments:** None

**Treasurers Report-Bob Zarriello-(see *handout*)**

- Bank Balance as of 1-31-09: \$562,073.69.
- *There is a negative number in the net income because Beacon Academy had not received lease aide approval by 1-31-2009, yet had already cut rent checks to the landlord for the period of July-January. Lease aide was approved the first week of February and is within budget projection, with the first payment on 2-14-2009.*
- *The current fund balance is up from 19.24% last month to 20.51% this month. This increase is due mainly to a mid-year review of actual salaries/benefits compared with the original budget.*
- *The finance committee is starting to look at next year's budget and will start looking at moving expenses that will be incurred this summer.*

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve the financial report.		
<b>Made by:</b>	Terese	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Candace
<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> all	<b>Nay:</b> none	<b>Abstain:</b> none
<b>Decision:</b>	passes		

**Principal's Report(Jordan Ford):**

1. Enrollment – current total is 373 students
2. MACS Board Governance Training Course 5: Ignorance of the Law is Neither Bliss Nor a Defense from 5-7:30 PM. It will be held here at Beacon Academy on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Let me know if you would like to register for the training.
3. HF 623 – Send a request for support for House File 623 to Senator Terri Bonoff. Her contact info was sent to you in an earlier communication.
4. Sean and I will be reading children's books to Beacon Academy students tomorrow night at the Ridgedale Barnes and Noble from 6:30-7 PM in honor of I Love to Read Month. Come and watch our students sing (6 PM) and look at their artwork display.
5. Channel 12 News featured Beacon Academy on Friday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. We'll show it tonight on the big screen.
6. The Planning Commission of Maple Grove unanimously approved recommending the PUD amendment for Church of the Open Door to house beacon Academy in their facility for next year. The Maple Grove City Council will vote on the recommendation Monday night.
7. Our new IT person, Darrin Enerson, celebrated his first week of employment today!
8. NWEA Testing is complete and teachers are able to access the data as of today.
9. We received the official certificate for the School Finance Award for 2009 from the MDE.
10. Parents will receive a copy of their student's NWEA test results as well as being able to use their parent portal to view their child's report card on March 12<sup>th</sup>.
11. Hourly Employee Pay options – *The hourly staff is wondering if they can be paid consistently across pay periods. Bob said that labor/employment laws do not allow hourly staff to be paid as if they were salaried.*
12. Extended Vacation- *There is a family that wants to go on an extended vacation next year for 8 weeks over the Thanksgiving and winter vacation. After 15 school days the students are kicked out of MARS and are technically un-enrolled from school. This has been an issue in the past and the board needs to come up with a policy.*

**Assistant Director's Report (Sean Koster):**

- The middle school schedule- *Students were shuffled at the end of the first trimester and it made a positive impact on classroom dynamics. The second trimester is coming to an end on March 6<sup>th</sup> and there will be another shuffle of students.*
- Explore ACT Test- *The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are taking this test to help them think about classes, college, and careers.*
- Second round of teacher observations are underway
  1. movement
  2. teacher language
- Professional Development Week
  1. Wednesday, February 18, 2009 – Q –comp Renee Rigold

2. Thursday, February 19, 2009 – JMC
3. Friday, February 20, 2009 – RC (Responsive Classroom) and DD (Developmental Designs)

- Professional Development Schedule and Calendar for next year – calendar handout

*The calendar committee and the leadership team at Beacon Academy are proposing changes to the 2009-2010 calendar that would replace the February Professional Development week with an early release for students about once a month (7 times during the year) for teachers to work in Professional Learning Communities (PLC). The board discussed how these days would be structured, how parents would respond to the changes, and how the new schedule could benefit teachers and students.*

*Terese has concerns about the change in the calendar and thinks that we should have more input from parents. She thinks that a letter should be sent to parents explaining why there might be a change and what impact it would have on teachers and students. This new schedule will pose a problem for P.M. kindergarten and this will require more discussion. There could be a substitute to teach the afternoon classes or both sections could go in the morning. Jordan has checked with the bus company and the early release does not seem to be a problem.*

*According to Sean, the morning could consist of character education, modeling procedures, and a review of classroom management. There would be a set schedule in place. More discussion on this subject is needed before the board votes on the proposed calendar.*

**PTO Report:** None

**Board Chair Report (Tam Harken):**

*Next year we will be switching days for the board meeting because of scheduling with Church of the Open Door.*

**Friends of Beacon Update (Bob Zarriello):**

*This afternoon Bob heard from Dick Ward, their bonding company representative. He told Bob that currently the tax exempt bond market is around 9%. This currently makes our design with the desired property cost prohibitive. One option would be to find a cheaper property and keep the same facility design.*

*Jordan spoke with Cedarcrest Academy today about sharing a facility. They are waiting to hear from the Arch Diocese Jordan said we still have time and Friends of Beacon could explore further options until we make a final decision. We will have to make a decision at our next board meeting.*

*Currently Friends of Beacon has spent \$108,457.83. Portions of this money can still be rolled into a new development project at a different site if that is what the board decides to do.*

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
**STANDING COMMITTEES**

- a. **Governance (Ann Marie)** – *Bob believes the change to policy 413 was unnecessary. Sean brought up that this includes the faculty as well, not just the students.*

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve the harassment and violence policy 413.		
<b>Made by:</b>	Gretchen	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Kalin
<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> All, but Bob	<b>Nay:</b> Bob.	<b>Abstain:</b> none
<b>Decision:</b>	passes		

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve policy 504.		
<b>Made by:</b>	Gretchen	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Kalin
<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> all	<b>Nay:</b> none	<b>Abstain:</b> none
<b>Decision:</b>	passes		

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve policy 404.		
<b>Made by:</b>	Gretchen	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Kalin
<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> all	<b>Nay:</b> none	<b>Abstain:</b> none
<b>Decision:</b>	passes		

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve policy 801.		
<b>Made by:</b>	Gretchen	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Kalin
<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> all	<b>Nay:</b> none	<b>Abstain:</b> none
<b>Decision:</b>	passes		

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve policy 510.		
<b>Made by:</b>	Gretchen	<b>Seconded by:</b>	Kalin
<b>Discussion:</b>			
<b>Vote:</b>	<b>Yea:</b> all	<b>Nay:</b> none	<b>Abstain:</b> none
<b>Decision:</b>	passes		

- b. **Executive (Tam Harken)**- None
- c. **Finance (Bob Zarriello)**- None
- d. **Technology Committee (Scott DesBles)**- *New IT position was filled.*
- e. **Curriculum (Lori Karcz)**- *Lori will discuss it at the next meeting.*
- f. **Marketing and Public Relations (Cathy Burke)**- None
- g. **New Building (Ann Marie)**- None
- h. **Transition (Gretchen McQuillan)**- None
- i. **Transportation (Tam Harken)**- None

**ON CALL COMMITTEES**

- a. **Fundraising and Grants-** None
- b. **Long-Range Planning-** None

**Board Correspondence and Communication-** None

**Old Business-** None

**New Business-** None

**NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 11, 2009 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

MOTION TO APPROVE FORWARDED BY CANDACE, SECONDED BY GRETCHEN, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn forwarded by Gretchen, seconded by Candace. Approved unanimously.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

**Approved on** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Anne Ingvaldson, Secretary**  
**Beacon Academy School Board**