

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124
 Board Meeting Minutes, September 24, 2009 6:00 p.m.
 9060 Zanzibar Lane N., Maple Grove, MN 55311

CALL TO ORDER Tam Harken called the meeting to order to at 6:04 pm.

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

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

Board Member	Present	Absent
Jordan Ford (ex-officio)	✓	
Rainey Miller	✓	
Candace Johnson	✓	
Anne Kronebusch	✓	
Mindy Boehnen	✓	

Board Member	Present	Absent
Anne Marie Roder	✓	
Terese Corey Blanck	✓	

ADVISORY MEMBERS Sean Koster

MISC. ATTENDEES Christina Holmes, Melanie Spall, Chris Lentz

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (choral reading of the Pledge of Allegiance)

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA The agenda has been taken off the consent agenda. Changes to the agenda: move the open floor comments until after the board reports. Take Quantum Development off of Board Correspondence.

Motion to approve agenda forwarded by Rainey Miller, seconded by Candace Johnson. Approved unanimously.

Motion:	To approve the consent agenda.		
Made by:	Kalin Farrell	Seconded by:	Ann Marie Roder
Discussion:			
Vote:	Yea: all	Nay: none	Abstain: none
Decision:	passes		

Treasurers Report-Bob Zarriello

- Bank Balance as of 8-31-09: \$391,802.25, plus \$250,000 CD (opened 9/29/08)
- There is no new report since the board already met in September.

Principal's Report(Jordan Ford):

- *Beacon Academy currently has 397 students, which is above our projected budget number. (See handout)*
- *The school may start looking at a way to over-enroll through the first week of school since it is very difficult to fill classes after school has started.*
- *Administration analyzed why students that were at Beacon Academy for the 2008-2009 school year did not return this year. There were 47 students that did not come back: 20 because the school moved too far, 15 were unknown, 10 families moved away, and there were various other reasons. (See handout)*
- *The annual report needs to be approved and submitted to our sponsor (Friends of Education) by October 1, 2009. Alese Larson and Jordan Ford have been working hard to format and*

finalize the report. There will be a special board meeting on Tuesday September 29th at 5:30 to approve the report.

- *MDE has scheduled an audit for our Title Program for November 10th to meet with Jordan Ford, Keith Johnson, Lori Schultz (Title 1 teacher), a classroom teacher, and a parent.*
- *Forty-five Hamline students are coming to Beacon Academy tomorrow. These are adults that are in other careers that have decided to become teachers. They will meet with Jordan Ford, Sean Koster and observe teachers.*
- *The emergency notification system has been ordered and parent information is being uploaded. This is a system that will enable the office to contact parents in a quick and efficient way if there is an emergency.*
- *The parent information meeting was on Monday and there were about 70 parents in attendance. Jordan Ford, Tam Harken, and Bob Zarriello presented a PowerPoint and answered questions. The discussion focused on the financial health of the school, funding, conversations with representatives from 281, and looking into all options for long range planning.*
- *The dishwasher is installed, will be approved Monday, and will be in use on Monday. Bob Zarriello wants something in writing from the church that they approve the use of the dishwasher and what the protocol is for when we leave.*

Assistant Principal's Report (Sean Koster):

1. *Developmental Designs Article- Sean wrote an article of how to implement Developmental Designs with middle school students and it was published in Origin's Developmental Designs newsletter.*
2. *AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) - Beacon Academy did not make AYP for the first time this year because of the special education cell at the school. MCA scores are segregated into cells and the individual cells are counted toward AYP when the number of students in the cell reaches a certain level. Beacon Academy's special education cell has grown large enough to be counted this year. Since the special education cell did not pass AYP this year, the whole school does not pass AYP. Right now we have received a warning and are in phase 1. When schools reach phase 2, parents have the option of sending their students to other schools.*
 - *What do the numbers mean?*
 - i. *The special education students are making progress and gains as demonstrated by their individual NWEA scores. The NWEA tests are given three times a year and are a more accurate way to see yearly growth. The MCA tests do not show improvement or progress, but only which students are able to test at grade level on the day the test is given.*
 - *Special education changes addressing AYP*
 - i. *There are now 4 full time special education teachers. There is a special education teacher for each grade in middle school and there are 2 paraprofessionals with each grade.*
 - ii. *All special education staff is in one office to help teachers improve communication.*
 - iii. *Each case manager in middle school is teaching 2 sections of organizational skills. They are focusing on homework review and catch up and are working on curriculum to teach organization.*

- iv. *The special education director is more involved and will conduct regular meetings at Beacon throughout the year.*
- v. *Special education students will take practice tests and our physical location this year will allow for better places to test in a small group atmosphere.*

Chairperson (Tam Harken): *Tam Harken e-mailed MACS to find out more about board level training. We are hoping to receive more information next week. Board training must happen for all board members before December 31st.*

PTO Report: *Rachel Parnes (PTO President) sent the board an update and will do that each month. She sent information about their budget, their upcoming events, and their current officers. (See handouts)*

Friends of Beacon (Jordan Ford): *There are two organizations out of California, NCB Capitol Impact and Charter School Capitol that are trying to connect charter schools with banks to help out with funding. Jordan Ford will consult with FOB and the executive committee of the school board to decide if we should fill out applications.*

Open Floor Comments: *Chris Lentz and Melanie Spall went to the parent information meeting on Monday and are concerned about District 281's resistance to Beacon Academy. They are interested in forming a committee to campaign and to help get the word out to those in the Robbinsdale District that Beacon Academy is interested in pursuing an existing building. They are asking for board support before they start this process. They also would like the Beacon board to make a formal presentation to the Robbinsdale board. The board supports Chris and Melanie and will draft a letter to the Robbinsdale school board and divestiture committee stating our interest. Chris and Melanie would like to hold a meeting with parents as soon as possible.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **STANDING COMMITTEES**
 - a. **Governance (Ann Marie Roder)** – *The next meeting is October 6th. They will be working on the Title I Policy and the Student Records Policy.*
 - b. **Executive (Tam Harken)** – *Executive met to discuss mid year and year end evaluations for administration.*
 - c. **Finance (Bob Zarriello)**- *None in addition to treasurer's report*
 - d. **Technology Committee (Scott DesBles)**- *The hardware for the wireless access points should arrive tomorrow and hopefully they will be installed on Monday.*
 - e. **Curriculum (Rainey Miller)**- *Teachers are turning in curriculum maps and their first release day to look at curriculum is coming up soon.*
 - f. **Marketing and Public Relations (Candace Johnson)**- *Candace Johnson e-mailed feedback about the website to Mindy Boehnen so that Nathan (her brother) can start working on the website.*
 - g. **New Building (Ann Marie Roder)**- *None*
 - h. **Transition (Tam Harken)**- *None*
 - i. **Transportation (Tam Harken)** - *This committee will be on call and will be turned over to Sean Koster. Final times will be given to parents very soon. Scott DesBles would like to look into charging a fee to parents for transportation for next year.*

• ON CALL COMMITTEES

- a. **Fundraising and Grants-** *Jordan Ford has brochures from companies that help out with grants. He will look into this more. He told parents that we are looking for help with grants at the parent information meeting.*
- b. **Long-Range Planning-** None

Board Correspondence and Communication- *Melissa Houghtaling from Heltzer and Burg wrote a letter to Quantum Development that was sent on Tuesday. The invoice to date from Heltzer and Burg is \$1,000. (See handout)*

Bob Zariello is resigning from the school board effective after the October 8th board meeting. Thank you to Bob for all his hard work on the board.

Bob will need to be replaced as treasurer and as a board member. Tam Harken recommends appointing an interim treasurer.

Motion:	To accept Bob Zariello's resignation from the board.		
Made by:	Scott DesBles	Seconded by:	Kalin Farrell
Discussion:			
Vote:	Yea: all	Nay: none	Abstain: none
Decision:	passes		

Old Business- None

New Business- *Jordan Ford would like the board to renew Susan Kelly's contract for the 2009-2010 school year. Susan Kelly is a psychologist that does special education assessments. She currently bills at \$100 an hour.*

Motion:	To renew Susan Kelly's contract for the 2009-2010 school year.		
Made by:	Terese Blanck	Seconded by:	Candace Johnson
Discussion:			
Vote:	Yea: all	Nay: none	Abstain: none
Decision:	passes		

NEXT MEETING IS OCTOBER 8TH AT 6:00 P.M.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA-

Motion to approve agenda forwarded by Ann Marie Roder, seconded by Candace Johnson. Approved unanimously.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn forwarded by Anne Kronebusch, seconded by Kalin Farrell. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Approved on _____

Anne Kronebusch, Secretary

Beacon Academy School Board

APPROVED