

CALL TO ORDER David Goeske called the meeting to order to at 6:36 p.m.

1.ROLL CALL present at time of meeting unless otherwise noted	Present	Absent
Board Member		
David Goeske (President)	✓	
Melanie Spall (Vice President)	✓	
Jacque Lee (Treasurer)	✓	
Heidi Sheard (Secretary)	✓	
Todd Alle	✓	
Matt Goodman	✓	
Meg Herlofsky	✓	
Brandon Huberty	✓	
Jennifer Hodge		✓
Rob Kalinsky	✓	
Keith Johnson(ex-officio)	✓	
Sean Koster(ex-officio)	✓	
Kris Achter (ex-officio)	✓	

MISC. ATTENDEES: ABBY TAPIA, LUPE HOYT, RUSS HOYT, DARRIN ENERSON, CONNIE WILDER, MATT WAHL, KRIS GAPINKSI, SARA AND JOSH HINES, BRANDON BURBACH, JACQUIE TIMPERLEY, JEFF TIMPERLEY, ELDRED BACH, SCOTT LOGAN, SARAH LOGAN, JEANNE VAN OOSBREE, ANDERS JOHANSSON, JASON SHEARD, NORMA NISTLER, MICHELLE AND NICHOLAS MEYER, NICOLA DENSMORE, RACHEL BLOCK

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(Choral reading of the Pledge of Allegiance)

3. BEACON MISSION STATEMENT

(Choral reading of the Beacon Academy Mission Statement)

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion:	To approve the agenda with the withdrawal of the open floor comments:							
Made by:	*Matt Goodman				Seconded by:	*Jacque Lee		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	David Goeske	x			Todd Alle	x		
	Melanie Spall	x			Meg Herlofsky	x		
	Heidi Sheard	x			Jennifer Hodge			x-absent
	Brandon Huberty	x			Rob Kalinsky	x		
	Matt Goodman	x			Jacque Lee	x		
Decision:	Passes							

5. School Spotlight-Math Masters Trip

- Ms. Herlofsky took a group of students to math masters. It was at St. Michael's church in Prior Lake. They were all 6th graders. Individual rounds, fast facts and working as a team. Competition was exciting. We placed in the middle. Students performed higher than anticipated. We will do it again next year and expand it to 5th grade.

6. Upcoming Board Elections: In accordance with school board election policy, potential school board applicants may ask questions at this time.

-A parent asked which seats were going to be up for election. There are 2 parent seats, 1 teacher seat and 1 community member seat available.

-he people currently seated in these positions have not decided if they will run again.

7. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion:	To approve the consent agenda with the following amendments: approve the Special Board Meeting minutes from February 20, 2016 and remove Policy 410 Family and Medical Leave Act. Also a vote happened at the end of the February meeting regarding the February 20 th meeting but was not recorded.							
Made by:	* Melanie Spall			Seconded by:	*Meg Herlofsky			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	David Goeske	x			Todd Alle	x		
	Melanie Spall	x			Meg Herlofsky	x		
	Heidi Sheard	x			Jennifer Hodge			x
	Brandon Huberty	x			Rob Kalinsky	x		
	Matt Goodman	x			Jacque Lee	x		
Decision:	Passes							
	A. Approval of Minutes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regular Board Meeting –February 18, 2016 2. Special Board Meeting – February 20, 2016 							
	B. Policy First Reading : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 410 Family and Medical Leave Act (FLMA)-removed 2. 403 Discipline, Suspension and Dismissal of Beacon Academy Employees 3. 403 Performance Improvement Plan (form) 							
	C. Policy Second Reading/Approval: None <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 413 Harassment and Violence (policy) 2. 413 Form (form) 							

8. Board Reports

A. Treasurer's Report –Jacque Lee/Keith Johnson

1. Review/Approval of Financial Report

- Changes from last month are the marketing expense at \$13,000 as well as facility exploration monies spent.

- There is a shift in the technology budget to marketing budget. No bottom line impact

- Enrollment; waitlist for upcoming school year there are 300 on the list compared to 198 last year.

-briefly took a look at the rough draft budget for next year. Increases are coming from state but we don't have them yet

Motion:	To approve the financial report							
Made by:	*Meg Herlofsky				Seconded by: *Heidi Sheard			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	David Goeske	x			Todd Alle	x		
	Melanie Spall	x			Meg Herlofsky	x		
	Heidi Sheard	x			Jennifer Hodge			x-absent
	Brandon Huberty	x			Rob Kalinsky	x		
	Matt Goodman	x			Jacque Lee	x		
Decision:	Passes							

B. Principal Report – Sean Koster

1. Enrollment Report

-There was a tour today. Ten families came to see the school in action.

A. Kindergarten/1st Grade Enrollment Numbers for 2016-2017

- The board tasked Sean with talking with kindergarten teachers and Mr. Kline from 1st grade. 1st grade teachers were fine with the increase in enrollment of 24 students in their classrooms this year. The recommendation is to keep 1st grade at 24 students. Kindergarten teachers are willing to do what the will of the board is but the teachers would recommend keeping class size at 22 for the sheer fact that their rooms are smaller. They have dedicated classrooms and do not flip. Dedicated space in this building is limited because we do not flip these rooms. Sean does not recommend increasing kindergarten while we are in this building.

2. 2016-2017 School Calendar

- For many years we mirrored Robbinsdale’s calendar because we pulled most of our families from there. This current calendar mirrors Osseo because we pull more students from that district. The vacation times mirror Osseo but not the professional development days.

- Discussion ensued about the February days off. Can we move the PD day on Feb 24th to the 17th to give families a 4 day weekend?

Motion:	To approve the school calendar for the 2016-2017 school year with the following changes; move the professional development day on February 24 th to February 17 th .							
Made by:	*Melanie Spall				Seconded by: *Jacque Lee			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	David Goeske	x			Todd Alle	x		
	Melanie Spall	x			Meg Herlofsky	x		
	Heidi Sheard	x			Jennifer Hodge			x-absent
	Brandon Huberty	x			Rob Kalinsky	x		
	Matt Goodman	x			Jacque Lee	x		
Decision:	Passes							

3. World’s Best Workforce Change of Date

-The meeting was originally scheduled for March but Sean is suggesting moving it to May for a special meeting before the regular board meeting. The board was agreeable to that.

-Keep in mind the budget will probably be approved that month so we need to make sure we make time for the finance meeting.

4. Marketing – SEO Request

-Jacque talked about a shift in the budget from technology to marketing. After the website design amount was approved the marketing committee asked for some extra spending for the SEO; Search Engine Optimization. It's a \$2,000 a month price tag; \$6,000 for the rest of the year. Our website company suggested we start marketing to our new location right away.

Motion:	To approve spending \$6,000 for the search engine optimization with our website development company for the remainder of this school year. With the knowledge that we would be continuing this SEO for one year at \$2,000/month							
Made by:	*Heidi Sheard			Seconded by:	*Todd Alle			
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	David Goeske	x			Todd Alle	x		
	Melanie Spall	x			Meg Herlofsky	x		
	Heidi Sheard	x			Jennifer Hodge			x-absent
	Brandon Huberty	x			Rob Kalinsky	x		
	Matt Goodman	x			Jacque Lee	x		
Decision:								
	Passes							

5. Correction on Open Door Exploration

-We were given a bill from Open Door for the exploration of expanding here. It was approved for \$4,000 and we were only supposed to pay \$2,025.00.

**The board took a 10 minute recess at 7:20pm.
 The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm.**

9. Standing Committees

B. Facility Planning Committee – Rob Kalinsky & Jaclyn May (CWN)

-We appreciated all the feedback either at the meeting on Monday and the letters that were sent after the meeting. There were a few themes; why don't we stay here? Why are we rushing?, why don't we postpone the decision? We put in a lot of effort at committees and at the board meetings. To suggest we didn't give Open Door expansion an opportunity is not accurate. The opportunities here did not meet Beacon's needs.

On the subject of postponement or rushing into decisions; this has been a multi-year decision. It has been a slow and deliberate process. We have a very specific schedule. We cannot push off any more than we have already. We risk time, value and money.

On the subject of being pressured by outside forces; we have not been pressured by outside forces. No board members have spoken about any concerns about our partners. Partners keep us on task but the board makes decisions to move forward or not.

On the subject of finances; we can afford this. We spent a lot of time on this and hired an outside auditor to develop a model that shows we can afford the expansion.

1. Review the current information associated with the Corcoran and Crystal expansion options

-information has been sent out since Monday due to updated info and questions that were brought up on Monday night.

-this information clarified questions that were brought up on Monday night.

-There is a house on the property; can we use it and for what and can FOB sell it? The church has asked to be able to use it as its offices for a time.

-Rob will work with our partners should the will of the board go that way to figure out what to do with the house.

-We do not anticipate any barriers from the City of Crystal. There is a neighborhood meeting on Monday at 6pm at Cornerstone Church. We will create a posting in case there is a quorum of the board.

2. Decide which expansion site (Corcoran or Crystal) to pursue

Board Members Shared One by One

--Our partners have shown us we can afford this project. Which location will be the best for Beacon? Will we be following our mission; Rigor, Curriculum and Parental involvement. Which location will serve that purpose? Corcoran is the only one that does.

--We are not able to keep middle school students at our current location. Where will middle school students come from in Corcoran?

--Crystal is a location where we can thrive. What is the mission statement? Having challenging students in this location has not changed the rigor in our school and it won't change the rigor in Crystal.

---The middle school maintains rigor. The student population does not dictate rigor in our curriculum. We can have a small learning community in Crystal. We can be a beacon to a community that needs it. Many things can change but our school culture won't because we won't allow it.

---Our job is to teach all students. We don't handpick the students that come here. Our mission statement is the same no matter where we reside. Crystal makes more sense; bigger classrooms, more green space, more children.

---Key factors: enrollment security, use of the building space, green space, current stake holders (parents), room sizes and square footage, curb appeal, operational costs and potential repair bills, overall project expense, investment spent so far in time and money, opinion of our administrators and board chair, facility planning committee input, maintain our culture.

---Non factors: busing, both options are slightly outside our search area, crime rates (virtually the same), it's not our mission to be a turnaround school, work that our partners have done, other charter school locations, own personal views. Biggest concern is the loss of families in the first 1-2 years. With all factors hanging in the balance the biggest factor is enrollment and I give the edge to Crystal on that.

---Letters and feedback from the community was not surprising. People align with where they live. The board has done a lot of good work and the timeline was reasonable. I am fearful of the first 5-10 years in Corcoran. We have to make a decision based on where we can fill the chairs. The numbers work in Crystal.

---We are rushing the decision to make the decision tonight. We don't have enough information to make a good decision. Parent letters and community concerns have not yet been discussed.

---We are leaving Open Door because of the feel of the school. It's about leaving here to build something we are proud of and have something that is our own. The process of looking at Corcoran showed us that we were making lots of sacrifices just to move out of our current building. Crystal would be an amazing home. Larger rooms, amazing green space that we will not get in Corcoran. Mission statement: small community, parental involvement, character development and rigor. We can maintain our values where ever we are but Crystal has the potential for the biggest impact.

---I want to make sure the school works. This process was stopped for a full year about 3 years ago. The board started up slowly and many hard questions were asked before we took off again. A thorough examination of numbers, location, timeline and other factors were taken into consideration before this project was started again. Basing the atmosphere of a school upon a thought that someone living in a part of the city has values less than our values does not make sense. People who believe in our school will follow us. People who believe in a community will not. We will not be any worse off going to Crystal. In the raw form that we know right now budget wise, we have the ability to play with our budget to get more of what we want. Crystal is our logical next step to explore.

Motion:	Move the board to authorize the continued due diligence effort for the Crystal site and cease efforts for the Corcoran site pending a non-negative neighborhood meeting next week.								
Made by:	*Rob Kalinsky				Seconded by:	*Jacque Lee			
Discussion:									
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	
	David Goeske	x			Todd Alle	x			
	Melanie Spall	x			Meg Herlofsky	x			
	Heidi Sheard	x			Jennifer Hodge			x-absent	
	Brandon Huberty	x			Rob Kalinsky		x		
	Matt Goodman	x			Jacque Lee	x			
Decision:	Passes								

3. Approve the reimbursement resolution for the Crystal expansion site

-to recoup the out of pocket expenses that we will be spending on due diligence on crystal

Motion:	To approve the reimbursement resolution for the Crystal expansion site as indicated in the board packet.								
Made by:	*Rob Kalinsky				Seconded by:	*Todd Alle			
Discussion:									
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	
	David Goeske	x			Todd Alle	x			
	Melanie Spall	x			Meg Herlofsky	x			
	Heidi Sheard	x			Jennifer Hodge			x-absent	
	Brandon Huberty	x			Rob Kalinsky	x			
	Matt Goodman	x			Jacque Lee	x			
Decision:	Passes								

4. Approve the submission for the MDE Review & Comment

-right now it's drafted for Corcoran. We will have to make the changes for crystal.

Motion:	To approve the submission for the MDE Review & Comment with the changes that needs to be done to support the Crystal site.								
Made by:	*				Seconded by:	*			
Discussion:									
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	
	David Goeske				Todd Alle				
	Melanie Spall				Meg Herlofsky				
	Heidi Sheard				Jennifer Hodge				
	Brandon Huberty				Rob Kalinsky				
	Matt Goodman				Jacque Lee				
Decision:	Motion was withdrawn before the vote.								

Beacon Academy School Board Goals the 2015-2016 School Year:

- 1. Student academic excellence*
- 2. Teacher and administration excellence*
- 3. Remove barriers to expansion*

Board Workshop- None

Old Business- None

Action Items-

NEXT MEETING IS April 21, 2016 @ 6:30 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 9:40pm; forwarded by Todd Alle, seconded by David Goeske. Approved unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.

Approved on _____

Heidi Sheard, Secretary
Beacon Academy School Board