

# Beacon Academy Charter District 4124

Regular Board Meeting Minutes, January 19, 2017 6:30 p.m.  
9060 Zanzibar Lane N., Maple Grove, MN 55311

**CALL TO ORDER** Melanie Spall called the meeting to order to at 6:30 p.m.

<b>1.ROLL CALL</b> present at time of meeting unless otherwise noted	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Board Member</b>		
David Goeske (President)		✓
Melanie Spall (Vice President)	✓	
Nick Meyer (Treasurer)	✓	
Heidi Sheard (Secretary)	✓	
Todd Alle	✓	
Matt Goodman	✓	
Eldred Bach	✓	
Brandon Huberty	✓	
Mike Reed	✓	
Sean Koster(ex-officio)	✓	
Kris Achter (ex-officio)	✓	
Keith Johnson(ex-officio)	✓	

**MISC. ATTENDEES:** MIKE POCRNICH

## 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

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve the agenda: with the addition of a staffing update under the Principals report								
<b>Made by:</b>	*Mike Reed			<b>Seconded by:</b>			*Heidi Sheard		
<b>Discussion:</b>									
<b>Vote:</b>	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	
	David Goeske			x-absent	Todd Alle	x			
	Melanie Spall	x			Eldred Bach	x			
	Heidi Sheard	x			Nick Meyer	x			
	Brandon Huberty	x			Mike Reed	x			
	Matt Goodman	x							
<b>Decision:</b>	Passes								

## 5. Open Floor Comments from Attendees:

## 6. Approval of Consent Agenda

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve the consent agenda:
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<b>Made by:</b>	* Eldred Bach				<b>Seconded by:</b>	*Todd Alle			
<b>Discussion:</b>									
<b>Vote:</b>	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	
	David Goeske			x-absent	Todd Alle	x			
	Melanie Spall	x			Eldred Bach	x			
	Heidi Sheard	x			Nick Meyer	x			
	Brandon Huberty	x			Mike Reed				
	Matt Goodman	x							
<b>Decision:</b> Passes									
A. Approval of Minutes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Regular Board Meeting – December 15, 2016</li> <li>2. Special Board Meeting – January 9, 2017</li> </ol>									
B. Approval of 2015 IRS 990 Tax Return									

**7. Board Reports****A. Treasurer: Nicholas Meyer****1. Review/Approval of Financial Report**

- Overall enrollment crept up a little
- The financial packet does not reflect anything that was approved at the special board meeting regarding hiring a Dean
- 1099's were mailed today.
- MACS MN house of rep had their first discussion since 2009 about charter schools. We are hoping to see some positive discussion about charter schools and decisions this year
- Mike Pocrnich introduced himself as the financial manager for FOB. His group will be taking care of all financial items related to FOB.

Motion:	To approve the financial report								
<b>Made by:</b>	*Eldred Bach				<b>Seconded by:</b>	*Brandon Huberty			
<b>Discussion:</b>									
<b>Vote:</b>	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	
	David Goeske			x-absent	Todd Alle	x			
	Melanie Spall	x			Eldred Bach	x			
	Heidi Sheard	x			Nick Meyer	x			
	Brandon Huberty	x			Mike Reed	x			
	Matt Goodman	x							
<b>Decision:</b> Passes									

**B. Principal Report – Sean Koster****1. Update on High Quality Charter School Designation**

- This is our 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row for getting recognized as a high quality charter school. The letter of congratulations has a list of requirements for getting the reward. Proficiency in math and reading and focus proficiency were among the requirements for getting the reward. Clean audits and staying out of statutory debt are also a requirement. There are 160 charter schools in the state and 26 are on the list for

the award. We are in the upper 15-16% of charter school in the state. It is something to be proud of.

## **2. Update on Extended Time Revenue Approval**

- We received revenue from the state for our math camp last year. It was free to the families because of the revenue we received.

## **3. Update on Marketing**

### **a. Postcards**

- The postcards and zip codes they were sent to were included in the packet. These postcards were sent to advertise our upcoming Prospective Family Info Session.

### **b. Summer Events**

- Sean would like more board members to attend our summer events. All the dates and places are included in the board packet. Sean would like to host two open houses at our new location and use these events to promote it.
- We are considering billboard and radio marketing. Our goal is to fill the seats!

## **4. Review Dean of Students Job Description**

- Questions? The dean would provide academic support for 4-8, professional development, and take care of referral needs for 4-8. There was some discussion about this, but all agreed that this is a good division of labor and only real life can dictate how the three administrators will help each other in various situations.

## **5. Update on Transportation**

- 11 locations are open to having a stop next year. There are 15 that have not responded yet. Only 4 locations said no so far.

## **6. Update on MACS**

- We paid our MACS membership dues this year. Board members have asked in the past why membership? MACS recently had a webinar that Keith sat in on.

Keith: they have a legislative update particularly on financial impact. Some examples they are advocating for:

- full operating levy dollars to follow the students to the charter schools, extended time revenue; we get ¼ of what the traditional districts get
- Alternative learning centers; right now charters are not allowed to do that.
- Special revenues for small charters in rural areas.
- Charters are excluded from working with students that are addicted to drugs and alcohol.
- Direct ownerships of charters in their buildings; we would be able to get access to traditional funding.
- Reworking the charter closing laws and seeking equity in the charter contract between the schools and the authorizers.
- Charter school accountability; it's currently hard for charter schools to serve the at risk population; alternative measures for measuring success.

## **7. Staffing Update**

- Two employment agreements were presented; Kaj Fjelstad is taking over for Chantal Vistad in special ed department. He has over 16 years of experience. Beatrice Castellano is taking over a middle school Spanish teaching position that was vacated this summer. She has 24 years of service in education.

<b>Motion:</b>	To approve the working agreements for Kaj Fjelstad and Beatrice Castellano for the remainder of the school year							
<b>Made by:</b>	*Eldred Bach			<b>Seconded by:</b>	*Nick Meyer			
<b>Discussion:</b>								
<b>Vote:</b>	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	David Goeske			x-absent	Todd Alle	x		
	Melanie Spall	x			Eldred Bach	x		
	Heidi Sheard	x			Nick Meyer	x		
	Brandon Huberty	x			Mike Reed	x		
	Matt Goodman	x						
<b>Decision:</b>	Passes							

**C. Assistant Principal Report – Kris Achter**

## 1. Review Trimester One Office Referral Data

- Tri 1 saw a big increase in referrals 271 (73 students)
- This has been the busiest trimester for referrals since we started keeping track in 2008.
- There is a breakdown in the packet of all the important information
- Kris indicated that teacher feedback has been very helpful. Changes have been made that are helping the climate.

## 2. Review ADSIS Opportunity

- Surveys were sent out to 14 charter schools; 5 were returned.
- Kris asked for help in writing the application.
- The application wont' be ready for 4-6 more weeks.
- We need to be prepared for the amount of time it will take for someone to apply for it and to do the reporting.
- There are 3 examples in the board packet of how we would implement this and pay for it.
- Nick supported hiring someone to write the grant because our return on investment is so good.

**Beacon Academy School Board Goals the 2016-2017 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 February 16, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn at 7:51pm forwarded by Eldred, seconded by Mike. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Heidi Sheard, Secretary**  
**Beacon Academy School Board**