

September 2016 Board Spotlight

Greetings Beacon Community,

We want to extend a special welcome to the new families at Beacon Academy. It is my pleasure to provide you with a brief summary of our school board meetings during this school year. Eldred Bach, board member and member of finance committee, gave the financial report. Clifton Larson Allen is conducting our annual audit this year and it will be done at the end of October. They will be presenting the audit at our December board meeting.

Current enrollment numbers are narrowly smaller than this time last year and it is along the lines of what the board expected in this year prior to moving to Crystal. It was noted that we have a greater student retention rate this Fall as compared to last Fall. The cities in which our new families are coming from include, Maple Grove, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Minneapolis, Plymouth, New Hope, and Robbinsdale.

Mr. Koster shared that Back to School Night was a great success and the school year has had an energetic beginning. Regarding busing, he and Mr. Achter and paras are tracking how many kids are riding the buses each morning and afternoon. As some of you know, some routes needed to be adjusted in order to serve our current school population. They want to make sure they are optimizing buses and route stops. Related to our new bus company is the news that Beacon Academy signage is now on the buses! Because they are arriving to school on time, 40-50 kids are choosing to eat breakfast each day from 8:45-9:00. Kindergarten students are invited to eat breakfast for free if you were not already aware.

The groundbreaking ceremony at Crystal was a big moment in our school's history! Footings will be in the ground soon and progress over there is well underway. Our contingency fund for the renovation and new build in Crystal is healthy and strong due to some lower-than-expected bids on various other aspects of the project. It is allowing us to look at putting some alternates back into the project. If you find that you wish you had even more detail on the progress at Crystal, consider attending our next meeting on October 13, 2016. Mr. Koster also plans to give building updates at the PTO meetings.

On behalf of the Beacon Academy School Board,
Heidi Sheard, Board Secretary