

## March 2018 Board Spotlight

Nick Meyer, Board Treasurer, gave our monthly finance report. Everything looks to be in order. Kris Gapinski, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and chair of the Curriculum Committee, gave a presentation about their progress in researching new science curriculum for K-5 and 6-8. She showed us samples of the SepUp for Elementary School and Foss for Middle School. Our teachers are excited to have new science curriculum to use with their students going forward. Geometry books will also be purchased for our first class of advanced math hitting geometry in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Curriculum will bring a detailed account of their purchase recommendation next month.

Referral Data for Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 was presented by Mr. Reeder. He talked about the process of managing referrals to be sure that they visit with all the students involved, talk to the students and teachers involved, and communicate back home as necessary. He feels that the administrators have a good system, which they continually evaluate, but that doesn't mean it hasn't been challenging at times. The referral data is used to help teachers reflect on their specific referrals and whether or not they have any personal biases. Teachers on the board talked about the need to reduce overall number of referrals and to keep focusing on the kids. Other board members asked for additional and more specific data to be pulled and shared with the board soon. Mr. Reeder would like to continue to address hidden biases with staff and to support alternative disciplinary actions, such as the PAWS (Positive Alternative Without Suspension) program. It is like in-school suspension but with more purpose and structure. The administration feels this is working well.

Enrollment report remains fairly steady. We are at 548 with approximately 597 enrolled for next year. Mr. Koster is encouraged by where we are going and noted that new students are in the process of adjusting to our high expectations for behavior at Beacon. Master Calendar for 2018-19 school year has been approved!

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