

Beacon Academy Charter District 4124
 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, March 19, 2020 6:30 p.m.
 3415 Louisiana Ave N, Crystal, MN 55427

*Beacon Academy is authorized by Innovative Quality Schools
 P.O Box 580, Hutchinson, MN 55350*

CALL TO ORDER Wendy Terry called the meeting to order to at 6:33p.m.

1.ROLL CALL present at time of meeting unless otherwise noted	Present	Absent
Board Member		
Wendy Terry (President)	✓	
Kris Gapinski (Vice President)	✓	
Aaron Price (Treasurer)	✓	
Paige Roth (Secretary)	✓ via zoom	
Elizabeth Brobeck	✓ via zoom	
Heather Greibrok	✓ via zoom	
Cameron Ward	✓ via zoom	
Dennis Dane	✓	
Joe Sears	✓	
Sean Koster(ex-officio)	✓	
Mike Reeder (ex-officio)	✓	
Mike Pocrnich (ex-officio)	✓	

MISC. ATTENDEES: PAUL JUDD, EMILY JENSEN, JOANNA PEDERSON, DANA RISLER

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 following changes: the executive directors report will add item #5 tractor purchase							
Made by:	*Aaron Price				Seconded by:	*Kris Gapinski		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Greibrok	x		
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x		
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	Passes							

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5. Public Comment: Dana Risler is here to talk about policy 430. Would like the policy reviewed specifically the calendar year clause. Change the wording to a school calendar year not a traditional calendar year.

6. Declaration of Conflict of Interest – there in no conflict at this time

7. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion:	To approve the consent agenda:							
Made by:	* Aaron Price				Seconded by:	*Kris Gapinski		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Greibrok	x		
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x		
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	Passes							
<p>A. Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting – February 18, 2020</p> <p>B. Policy, First Reading</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 514.5 Cyberbullying – Prohibited Use of Technology 2. 601 Curriculum and Instruction Goals <p>C. Policy, Second Reading</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 431 Salary and Wage Compensation System 2. 603 Curriculum Development <p>D. Staffing Update</p>								

8. Board Reports

A. Finance Committee – Mike Pocrnich

1. Review/Approve February 2020 Financial Report

- Finance talked about the tractor purchase as well as the budget forecast.
- February financials: We are 67% through the fiscal year. We are consistent in our cash balance.
- Revenues and expenditures are still very conservative. We are at 63% in our expenses of what is budgeted.
- Days Cash on Hand is 63.
- Sean thanked all the committees that bring their work to the finance committee and Mike Pocrnich for coming in today.

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Motion:	To approve the finance report:							
Made by:	*Joe Sears				Seconded by:	*Aaron Price		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Greibrok	x		
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x		
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	Passes							

2. Long Range Forecast

- The budget is continuing to be run conservatively. Some areas do grow beyond the budget like furniture and equipment. There are 5 separate spreadsheets that go into the budget projections. The majority of the work is what Mike Pocrnich and Sean work on each month.

B. School Updates

1. Technology, Paul Judd

- There is a 4 year plan in place now. There is going to be an expenditure to replace the backup server. There will be software related to that as well.
- A budget of 45-50k a year is being planned.
- Laptops are going to be purchased for summer staff replacements.
- Sean mentioned that the budget should be upwards of 75-80k so we can get better technology for the staff. This was approved a couple years ago.
- Wendy asked if there is something we can purchase now so that we can spend the extra 20k that isn't in the current budget. Paul said there are a few things that have been discussed this year that can be looked into.
- Dennis asked about pricing of chrome books and would we be giving them to an entire grade level. Wendy mentioned that would be a board discussion as we are currently not a one on one initiative school.

2. Q-Comp, Kasey Lehman

- Teachers have 3 separate goals to the charlotte Danielson model. See Veteran Teachers Program. These observations have been completed. Feedback on the veteran program has been positive since this has been the first year.
- Teacher Evaluation and Development Model (TED)
- 20% planning, 20% environment, 40% instruction, 20% professionalism
- Professionalism is the 3rd goal. It a reflection piece that encompasses communication with colleagues and parents.

C. Curriculum Committee

1. Review Spanish Curriculum, Joanna Pederson

- Spanish moved from levels to advanced Spanish. The request is for materials and curriculum for a Heritage Speakers class. This would be primarily for students who have Spanish spoken in the home. Heritage speakers need literacy skills and hopefully this would meet the needs of our growing native speakers of Spanish.
- There are 3 different sets of curriculum they would also like to purchase as well as some Spanish resources.
- There is also a cost for novels and advanced curriculum for future years.
- The total for all is \$977.09
- Sean made a comment that this amount is so small that it normally would have been decided from his office. It's coming here because of what happened with the health curriculum. Sean is looking for direction from the board on whether they want to deal with small expenditures like this?
- It might be better to discuss whether the curriculum is offering fundamental change?

2. Review Art Curriculum, Emily Jensen

- The curriculum decided not to get an art curriculum in a book due to the process vs. the lessons themselves. The committee decided to go with iPads that can be an art medium. 13,590 for the iPads. There is an app solution package that cost \$1,791 or \$2,000 for the entire curriculum cycle. Logitech crayons were priced out at 1,498.50. Cases were 449.40. Charging station 536.97. Digital Art tools procreate is 299.70. Flex curriculum 499.00 year.
- This would be used to streamline the curriculum a little more. Emily already uses Artsonia which already helps with this.
- Joe asked about what the plan was for grade level usage. Emily explained that Kindergarten would not be using them.
- Sean asked about mediums that will still be used. Emily explained that drawing, clay and sculpture would still be used for hand manipulation.
- Emily said they would be able to do virtual museum tours with the iPads.
- Finance is not concerned with the \$800 overage this will cost.

D. Fund Development Task Force, Wendy Terry

- Wendy has been in conversation with a small business that can get us some immediate needs in the performing arts center.

E. Governance Committee, Ann Marie Roder

- Governance is currently reviewing the school bullying policies. We have also announced the school board elections to the community. We have two teacher positions and the community member position open.

F. Employee Retention and Compensation Committee, Paige Roth

1. Review Administration Salary Schedule

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- We are presenting the administration salary schedules tonight. The look at board packet for information.
- Finance embedded this into the 5 year budget and it was approved by finance for the long range budget. They look at the overall impact to the budget.
- Next year's impact is \$48k which is a little over what we were trying to achieve by staying under 45k.
- We will look at this again next month to finalize this pay scale.

G. Executive Committee,

- Met this week and went over the Distance Learning plan and how the board can support admin. They are also working on future planning as we are ending our expansion vision.

H. Executive Director, Sean Koster

1. Enrollment Report

- We want to do our Distance Learning well because our enrollment is where we get our money. A solid front for all our families is important so they don't start looking at what other districts are doing.
- We have 658 enrolled. We budget for 660-665. We do have kids enrolling today which is good.

2. WSSS

- West Suburban Summer School – just canceled classes because of what's going on. We had 118 students going which is great. This is a gifted program that our kids qualify for.

3. Master Calendar FY21

- Last year we had to have a conversation about how to make up our cold weather days. This caused us to look at adding minutes to our schedule so that we can add days to our calendar.
- A survey went out to the staff and families about adding minutes to the schedule and both came back at 50/50.
- The recommendation from the admin team is to leave the schedule and calendar the way it is.
- We are not starting school until the 8th of September so school will get out later in June.
- The student contact days are 167 with 182 working agreement days for teachers.
- Professional development days are being matched up as much as we can with Robbinsdale district so it helps out the majority of our families. November 3rd is Election Day and we are going to have a PD day on that day which is a Tuesday.
- All the breaks do match up with Robbinsdale's calendar.

Motion:	To approve the school calendar for the 2020-21 school year:							
Made by:	*Joe Sears				Seconded by:	*Aaron Price		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Greibrok	x		
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x		

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Kris Gapinski	x		
Decision:	Passes		

4. John Deere Tractor

- We have a 20 year old John Deere tractor and it's not holding up and needs to be replaced. It actually needs \$1,500 in repairs. We have a proposal from the dealership for a new model. It has several attachments; loader, rotary broom, snow blower and landscape rake.
- The tractor is \$29,404.00 and it's no interest for 5 years. With the attachments it will help lessen the cost of renting equipment and snow removal.
- Dennis suggested paying extra and having it paid off early.

Motion:	To approve the purchase of a new John Deere tractor:							
Made by:	*Joe Sears				Seconded by:	*Aaron Price		
Discussion:								
Vote:	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Member	Yea	Nay	Abstain
	Aaron Price	x			Paige Roth	x		
	Wendy Terry	x			Elizabeth Brobeck	x		
	Dennis Dane	x			Heather Greibrok	x		
	Cameron Ward	x			Joe Sears	x		
	Kris Gapinski	x						
Decision:	Passes							

5. COVID 19 – Community Update

- There was an executive order on Sunday from the Governor about closing schools and coming up with a Distance Learning Plan. The admin team met Sunday afternoon and came up with a plan on how we were going to execute this.
- We broke the process up into 8 categories and assigned people to it. We followed the order to show up and plan for the week. It's been emotional for the staff as coming together goes against what the medical community is telling us to do.
- Distance Learning – google videos, google instruction and google support. We are launching google suites on March 30th. We might launch google classroom at a later date. We are also doing packets of work to our students to supplement the online learning. We have looked at what we have for technology that we can put in hands of students and families that needed it the most.
- Childcare – We don't expect a large number. We've had 5 so far but as this progresses our numbers might increase.
- Nutrition - We start this tomorrow. We have bagged 225 meals and our Apex vans will be delivering them to our routes for us.
- Wellness and Mental Health – a document went out to families today with resources for mental health
- Attendance and Truancy – We are investigating how this will actually work. The first week will be a good test of how this is going to work.
- Special Education – planning for less is more for the kids. We are looking to just support their IEP needs.

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- Homeless Liaison – food and packets are being delivered right where they are living.
- Staff Safety and Health – we continue to clean.
- Sean and the nurse are on conference calls daily. We will continue to follow recommendations from MDE and MDH.
- We have talked briefly about Chromebooks. This is exploratory at the moment.
- Dennis made a comment about the real possibility that students won't come back into the building this school year and that Chromebooks will be in great demand. He suggested purchasing them now and not waiting.
- We have about 200 middle school students so that would be an expense of about 40k.
- Joe commented that this might not be the best solution as this will be new to the students, parents and the teachers. Tech support would be difficult.
- Heather commented that we are going to lose the community feel if we don't get on the technology.
- Paige would like to give admin the ability to make a decision right away. She suggested giving them a 20k-40k range to work with.
- Dennis said there is room in the budget to take from line items that won't be spent without students in the building. Because there is money in the budget, there's no need to vote.

Board Workshop- None

Old Business- None

Action Items-

NEXT MEETING IS April 16, 2020

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 9:39pm forwarded by Cameron Ward seconded by Heather Greibrok. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:39pm.

Approved on _____

**Paige Roth, Secretary
Beacon Academy School Board**